

# PEARLS

FOR YOUR PRACTICE™



**JOSHUA AUSTIN,  
DDS, MAGD**

## **Miratray Implant Advanced impression trays by Hager Worldwide**

Restoring implants seems like it would be an incredibly easy proposition. There's no tooth to prep, no finish line to refine. Generally, there is no anesthetic to inject or cord to pack. Once the implant is integrated, we simply need to accurately impress the implant so the lab can make a beautiful restoration. Sounds simple, right?

Unfortunately, we do have some key decisions to make when it comes to that ever-important impression. One of the most important choices is whether to make an open-tray or closed-tray impression. Closed-tray impressions are somewhat simpler, but they can be less accurate than open-tray impressions.<sup>1</sup>

Open-tray impressions, while more accurate, are cumbersome. The biggest pain point of the process is the tray. We have to

fabricate some kind of tray to take an open-tray impression. That might be a true custom impression tray, which generates a lab fee. It could also be a stock tray that has been modified in the laboratory, which generates a mess and sucks time. Neither option is great. That is why most clinicians choose a closed-tray impression technique, despite it being less accurate. Miratray Implant Advanced impression trays from Hager Worldwide can help ease the biggest pain point of an open-tray implant impression—the tray!

Miratray Implant Advanced impression trays come in three different sizes for each arch. They look like traditional plastic impression trays, except on the occlusal surface. The occlusal surface is covered with a clear foil that is pierced by the open-tray impression coping as you



place the impression in the mouth. The copings cleanly pierce the clear foil, so four pounds of excess impression material won't spew out of massive holes in the tray. It is faster, neater, and easier than trying to MacGyver your stock trays to take an open-tray implant impression.

Other than the clear, pierceable foil on the occlusal surface, the trays work identically to any other stock plastic trays. You will still need to use polyvinyl siloxane (PVS) or polyether adhesive on them, so don't forget that important step.

A neat, clean open implant impression tray that is always ready to go is a really nice addition to your armamentarium.

These have saved me time from having to make my own custom trays and have saved me money from having to order custom trays from the lab. They have made it easier and simpler to take an open-tray implant impression, and I love that! Hard-hat base hit up the middle for Hager Worldwide!

### **REFERENCE**

1. Kwon JH, Son YH, Han CH, Kim S. Accuracy of implant impressions without impression copings: a three-dimensional analysis. *J Prosthet Dent.* 2011;105(6):367-373.