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Beautiful Smiles

Digital Impressions-Tips to ensure a successful outcome

We have been receiving more digital impressions from our clients as digital impression systems have become more common in the dental profession. We wanted to share some tips and advice from our lab and from a leading professional in the industry, John Kois.

Please treat digital impressions like a conventional impression:

- Make sure there is no blood or saliva on the prepared teeth
- We recommend using the double cord technique for digital and conventional impressions. This helps to capture a clear margin so it is easier to mark on a 2D screen - it can be difficult to delineate between tissue and tooth when there is no separation
- Make sure there are no voids or holes in the digital scan-capture all tissue and teeth involved
 - Use conventional impression if margins are deep or below the tissue-scans don't work as well on implants, make sure and select implant on the scan RX. Please include the brand and size of the scan body and the brand and size of the implant on the RX
- Make sure to include patients name, restoration type, shade, return date and any other pertinent info in the digital RX
- Please send approved final temp model for anterior cases
- Digital scans are best for full coverage teeth and 3-4 unit bridges.
- According to John Kois, he does not recommend digital scans for veneers, inlays, onlays, large span bridges and full mouth cases. There are limitations to what a scanner can do.