

Implant Seminars Brings Real-Time Dental Implant Surgery to Students Over HD Video



Renowned oral surgeon offers dentists continuing education and hands-on instruction with LifeSize high definition video



Organization

Implant Seminars, Miami Beach, Florida

Dental implants are one of the most exciting treatments in modern dentistry. Unlike crowns, bridges or veneers, which attach to existing teeth, dental implants replace lost or damaged teeth entirely by connecting a titanium “root” directly to the jawbone and attaching a fully-functional, cosmetically perfect ceramic tooth. For those who have lost teeth due to accidents, disease or neglect, or those who choose implants to improve their appearance, the results are life-changing.

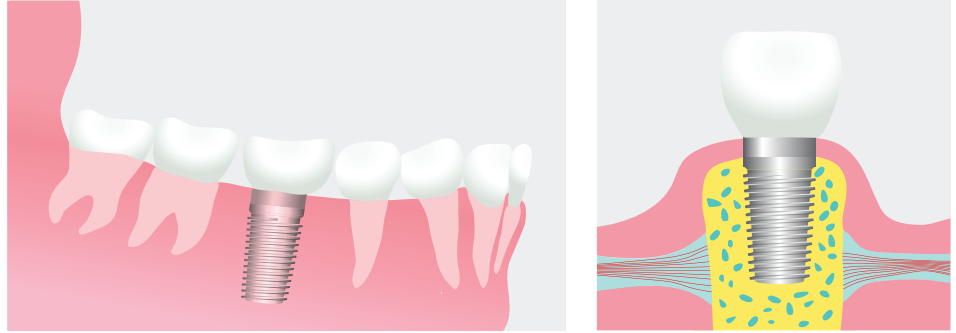
Founded by distinguished oral and maxillofacial surgeon Dr. Arun K. Garg in 1989, Implant Seminars, based in Miami Beach, Florida, teaches this exciting technique to fellow dental surgeons through extensive, hands-on training workshops. Dr. Garg and his team help dentists gain the knowledge and confidence needed to successfully place and restore dental implants.

Challenge

Because dental implants have such tremendous benefits for patients, there is an enormous demand for training but a small number of qualified surgical instructors. Academic instruction can take place in a large classroom with many students, but the most vital part of the training is observing the surgical techniques. Not only would it be impossible to have 60 students attempt to observe a surgery in person, Dr. Garg’s surgical suite was located two miles from the classroom.

In his workshops, Dr. Garg wanted to bring surgery to life for his students. For years, he attempted to simulate the experience by using prosthetic models and prerecorded tapings of live surgeries. While these tactics were practical in teaching the step-by-step process, it lacked the real, interactive experience he needed to give his students the full breadth of understanding.

Dr. Garg needed a solution that would allow students to witness the surgery first hand and in real-time, so that doctor and student could interact throughout the procedure. The solution would also need to be of impeccable quality, as to give the most lifelike image possible. Ease of use, price performance and bandwidth efficiency were also important considerations.



Solution

Implant Seminars chose OmniPresence, one of the nation's leading suppliers of videoconferencing systems and services, to implement a solution tailored to fit the needs of their unique telemedicine application. After a full assessment of the closed-circuit video systems and videoconferencing products on the market, Dr. Garg and his technical team chose LifeSize HD video as the best solution.

"The resolution of the LifeSize system just blew us away," said Jose C. Herreria, Manger of Business Systems for Implant Seminars. "We definitely got more bang for our buck compared to the other systems we saw."



The team at OmniPresence implemented a LifeSize® Room™ system at the seminar site, along with an HD projector to display the surgeries on the site's movie theater-sized projection screen. At Dr. Garg's clinic, a LifeSize® Team™ system was installed along with a high quality medical camera over the dentist's chair, allowing Dr. Garg's technical team in the seminar site's studio to easily zoom in and out of the patient's mouth. An HD Digital Video Recorder was also implemented so that each surgery could also be captured and key teaching moments used in future seminars.



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Jose C. Herreria
Business Systems Manager
Implant Seminars

Results

By creating a high-definition video link between the doctor's clinic and the seminar classroom, Dr. Garg can share the latest techniques in dental implant surgery with a far greater number of fellow surgeons.

"Giving a student literature and explaining the procedure by pictures and models is great," said Dr. Garg. "But allowing an entire classroom to get a first-hand view of the surgery and ask questions as we go along is invaluable to their learning experience. It's just like being there, only better."



Implant Seminars has had so much success with their seminars using LifeSize HD video, they plan to take LifeSize on the road with them and conduct weekend surgical seminars in locations such as San Francisco, Chicago, Washington, Atlanta, New York, Dallas and Los Angeles. By eliminating the need to travel, they can train even more doctors.

"Because LifeSize uses bandwidth so efficiently, we can hold our seminars in nearly any hotel or meeting space in the world and connect to Dr. Garg's clinic in Miami Beach for the live surgery portion of the training," said Herreria. "Quite simply, LifeSize is easy to use, gives you great quality and is reasonably priced. We could not be happier."



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