

Paolo Genangeli DDS, a dental surgeon, provided a practical and empathetic roadmap for transforming the dental office into a safe environment for patients with Multiple Chemical Sensitivity (MCS). Recognizing that the modern dental clinic is often a minefield of chemical triggers, from the scent of disinfectants to the materials used in fillings, Dr. Genangeli argued that accommodating MCS patients is not only possible but essential. His approach focuses on "environmental decontamination" and personalized material testing to ensure that dental care does not lead to a systemic biological crisis.

To create a truly welcoming environment, Dr. Genangeli detailed a rigorous protocol for the dental team. This begins before the patient even enters the building. He emphasized the total elimination of ambient fragrances and the use of specialized air purification systems to remove volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and formaldehyde. Staff must wear clothing washed in scent-free detergents and avoid personal perfumes. Ideally, MCS patients are scheduled for the first appointment of the morning, when the air is cleanest; if that isn't possible, the room must be thoroughly ventilated and purged of any chemical residues from previous procedures.

During the actual dental work, Dr. Genangeli shifts the focus to the safety of materials and the removal of toxins. For patients needing to replace old mercury-amalgam fillings, he uses a specialized enucleation technique that removes the material in large chunks without overheating it, which prevents the release of toxic mercury vapours. This process is supported by high-speed surgical suction, non-latex dams, and even supplemental oxygen for the patient to ensure they aren't inhaling any particulate matter during the procedure. He also replaces standard synthetic mouthwashes and tap water with filtered or bottled water to minimize chemical exposure.

A cornerstone of Dr. Genangeli's practice is the use of the Lymphocyte Transformation Test (LTT). Every person with MCS has a unique genetic and metabolic profile. The LTT is a blood test that checks how a patient's immune cells react to specific metals or synthetics before they are placed in the mouth. This is far safer than traditional patch tests on the skin, which can actually cause a patient to become more sensitized. By using these laboratory results, the patient can select the most biocompatible options, such as metal-free zirconia implants, which are less likely to trigger the chronic, low-grade inflammation often seen with titanium.

Ultimately, Dr. Genangeli's presentation serves as a call to action for the dental profession to move beyond the traditional approach. He views the dentist's role not just as a repairer of teeth, but as a guardian of the patient's overall homeostatic balance. By integrating environmental medicine into dentistry using air purification, biocompatible materials, and gentle detoxification supports like Vitamin C and glutathione, Dr. Genangeli demonstrates that dental care can be inclusive, safe, and scientifically grounded for the millions of people living with chemical sensitivities.