Dear Colleague,

Our goal is to be a source of information for you as well as providing oral surgery care for your patients. Through this quarterly newsletter, we wish to share with you some of the latest developments in oral surgery and implant dentistry, as well as open communication with your office.

Remember that the Minnesota State Board of Dentistry allows hour-for-hour credit (elective category) for self-study activities such as literature review. You simply need to document the date and amount of time spent to receive the appropriate credit.

We appreciate the trust you place in us by allowing us to participate in the care of your patients.

Regards,

Dr. Brent L. Florine

P.S.: Limited space is still available for our CPR recertification classes on November 7 and 13. Call for details.

Long-term Bone Stability Assessment Around 1,187 Immediately Placed Implants with 1- to 22-Year Follow-up


The purpose of this study was to evaluate the retention of bone around implants placed immediately following tooth extraction and used to support dental prostheses. Patients from a previous study of implants placed immediately following tooth extraction were recalled to the original practice to obtain dental radiographs, which were then used to compare bone levels after 1 to 22 years of clinical function supporting dental prostheses. All radiographs were evaluated by measuring the bone within the implant threads. Implant bone maintenance was correlated with smoking history, type of implant surface, antibiotics used in conjunction with surgery, bisphosphonate use, presence of splinted restorations, anatomical location (mandible or maxilla and anterior or posterior), sex, and past periodontal disease status.

A total of 1,187 implants were identified, with mean bone loss of 0.52 mm. Overall bone loss was less than 1.5 mm in 90% of the implants studied. Bone loss was greater in women (0.61 mm vs 0.44 mm in men). There was a correlation between bone loss and patient age at the time of tooth loss, with patients below the age of 50 experiencing significantly more loss (mean loss, 0.76 mm < 50 and 0.46 mm at age > 50. Other significant differences were seen with implant surface (machined surface, 0.57 mm; roughened surface, 0.44 mm, maxilla vs mandible in molar areas (maxilla, 0.68 mm; mandible, 0.43), and platform width (regular, 0.46 mm wide, 0.83 mm). None of the other factors demonstrated significant differences. Bone loss of 1.5 mm or less was observed in 90% of the patients followed. The authors concluded that bone loss was correlated with age, sex, implant surface, anatomical location, and platform width. There was no statistical correlation between bone loss and any other factors evaluated.

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The Influence of Smoking on the Survival of Dental Implants: a 5-Year Pragmatic Multicenter Retrospective Cohort Study of 1727 Patients


The purpose of this study was to evaluate the influence of cigarette smoking on the survival of dental implants with a retrospective observational study of 5 years. A total of 1727 consecutively treated patients at four private practices were divided into non-smokers (NS group, 1178 patients) and smokers (S group; 549 patients) according to what they declared prior to implant placement. Non-smokers received 4460 implants and 2583 implant-supported prostheses, whereas smokers received 2260 implants and 1292 implant supported prostheses. Various implant systems and procedures were used. Outcome measures were prostheses and implant survival.

Over the 5 years after loading, 159 (17%) non-smokers and 91 (13%) smokers were lost to follow-up; 20 (0.9%) prostheses could not be placed or failed in 15 non-smokers and 12 prostheses (1.2%) could not be placed or failed in 12 smokers. One hundred and twelve (2.9%) implants failed in 105 non-smokers and 107 (5.5%) implants failed in 75 smokers. Most of the implant failures (90%) occurred before implant loading. Examining the appropriate statistical analysis for early implant failures and total implant failures, taking into account the clustering of implants in patients, there were no statistically significant differences for prosthesis failures and early implant failures between the two groups. However, when considering all implant failures up to 5 years after loading, significantly more failures (5.5%) occurred in smokers compared with non-smokers (2.9%). Due to the retrospective nature of this study, conclusions have to be interpreted with caution. Five years after loading, smokers experienced almost twice as many implant failures compared with non-smokers. Non-statistically significant trends in favor of non-smokers were observed for early implant failures and prosthesis failures.

Effect of Premolar Extraction on Mandibular Third Molar Impaction in Young Adults

Türköz C, Ulusoy C.
Angle Orthod. 2013 Jan 11

The purpose of this study was to test the null hypothesis that orthodontic therapy with or without premolar extraction does not result in any difference in third molar impaction. Two groups were formed: 22 patients in one group with first premolar extractions and 22 patients in the other group without extractions. All patients were nongrowing subjects who had normal gonial angles and were skeletal Class I at the beginning of treatment. The available space for third molars, inclination of second and third molars, and angle between the second and third molars were evaluated. Also, the correlation of measured parameters and type of orthodontic therapy with the eruption of third molars was evaluated.

Results showed that of the third molars, 81.8% were impacted in the nonextraction group and 63.6% were impacted in the extraction group. Impaction of mandibular third molars was significantly correlated to the pretreatment and posttreatment inclination of third molars and the angle between the second and third molars. In the extraction therapy group, the retromolar distance increased significantly with a mean of 1.30 ± 1.25 mm. The authors concluded that when the inclination of the third molar is inconvenient, the tooth may remain impacted even if there is enough retromolar space.

Tilted Implants for the Restoration of Posterior Mandibles with Horizontal Atrophy


Horizontal atrophy in the posterior mandible presents serious limitations on conventional implant placement. The purpose of this study was to evaluate the use of tilted implants angled in a buccolingual direction for restoring atrophic posterior mandibular sectors. A cohort study was performed of 25 patients who had partial prostheses supported by more than 1 implant (≥1 tilted and 1 axial implant) to restore molar areas in the mandible. When the bone thickness was at least 5 mm, axial implants were placed; when the alveolar ridge was narrower, the implant was placed with tilted angulation.