

4th International Conference on Prosthodontics

April 19, 2022 | Webinar

Received Date: 10 January, 2022 | Accepted Date: 10 January, 2022 | Published Date: 09 May, 2022

Soft tissue dehiscence associated with a titanium patient-specific implant, a prosthetic solution as an alternative to soft tissue grafting

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A 23-year old male patient presented with soft tissue complication following the placement of a 3D printed titanium patient-specific implant. This implant was implemented simultaneously with the resection of a calcifying cystic odontogenic tumor related to the maxillary arch. Later, soft tissue dehiscence and implant exposure were encountered with subsequent food impaction and infection. fabricating removable partial denture. The prosthesis was planned to be retained by bar and clip attachment on the patient-specific implant side. While on the other side, the removable prosthesis was allowed to engage two abutments with an embrasure clasp assembly in addition to covering the palatal tissues to offer protection for the soft tissue dehiscence against food impaction. Soft tissue dehiscence and implant exposure are among the frequently reported complications associated with the patient-specific implant. The resulting infection complicates the prognosis of the implemented implant and necessitates, in some occasions, its removal. The selection of the removable prosthesis to cover soft tissue dehiscence was a conservative alternative to the implant removal as it protects the exposed titanium surface from food impaction while maintaining the implant functionality. Patient specific implants may be regarded successful in terms of fixation and stability, nevertheless soft tissue dehiscence is a serious complication that should be anticipated and managed early during the treatment. The use of detachable overlay prosthesis can be considered a promising solution to conservatively overcome the hygiene related complications while fulfilling the patient's aesthetic and functional demands.

Recent Publication

1. Ciocca L, Mazzoni S, Fantini M, Persiani F, Marchetti C, Scotti R. CAD/CAM guided secondary mandibular reconstruction of a discontinuity defect after ablative cancer surgery. *J Craniomaxillofac Surg* 40: 511-515.
2. Mounir M, Abou-ElFetouh A, ElBeialy W, Mounir R. Patient-specific alloplastic endoprosthesis for reconstruction of the mandible following segmental resection: A case series. *J Craniomaxillofac Surg* 48:719-723.
3. Wong WW, Martin MC. Reconstruction of extended orbitomaxillectomy and hemimandibulectomy defects with fibula flaps and patient-specific implants. *J Craniofac Surg* 27:380-384.

Biography

Sharaf Eldeen M Abbas is working in the Cairo University, Egypt, since the beginning of his clinical career; his passion was directed towards the implant prosthodontics and oral rehabilitation. He is running a dental practice in his home country limited to surgical implant placement and prosthodontics.

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