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Vertical mandibular bone augmentation by the osteodistraction of the transplanted fibula free flap: A case series with long-term follow-up

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We present a case series, short-, medium- and long-term outcomes to demonstrate the long-term reliability of fibula free flap with secondary distraction of the flap for the purposes of dental rehabilitation with implant therapy. The approach is known and widely applied, but long-term reports with both hard- and soft tissue outcomes are rare. Function and esthetics are considered, focusing both on the hard and the soft tissues. Annually, an average of 15 mandible reconstruction surgeries are performed in our practice with the fibula free flap approach. Approximately every other patient receives full mouth rehabilitation with implant-retained restorations following mandibular reconstruction. Four cases are presented. In all the presented cases, the reconstructed mandibular segment was longer than 11 cm. Therefore, the duplication of the fibula free flap, the “double barrel technique” was not possible at the time of the primary surgery. In all four cases, the outcomes suggest that in the case of large mandible defects, fibula free flap with secondary distraction of the flap is a safe and reliable approach to the surgical rehabilitation of the atrophic alveolar ridge prior to dental implant therapy. In all cases, the method yielded lastingly favorable outcomes, both functionally and esthetically.

Biography

Tamas Sass graduated in 2002 from the Faculty of Dentistry of Semmelweis University of Medicine. After graduating from university, he worked as a resident at the Central Institute of Dentistry from 2002-04 and then took a professional exam in October 2004 and became a specialist in dental and oral diseases. From 2004-06 he worked in the Department of Maxillofacial and Oral Surgery of St. Roch's Hospital. Since 2007 he has been employed by the Department of Maxillofacial and Oral Surgery of Kecskemet County Hospital. In January 2007, became a specialist in dentoalveolar oral surgery and have been a member of the medical team of the Uniklinik Zuglo Dental Center since November 2004. In 2012, he earned his second degree from the Faculty of General Medicine at Semmelweis University of Medicine. In 2015, became a specialist in maxillofacial surgery and in 2016, he was appointed as chief physician in the Department of Maxillofacial and Oral Surgery of Kecskemet County Hospital. He is a member of the Hungarian Medical Chamber and the Hungarian Society of Facial, Maxillofacial and Oral Surgery.

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