Debate #1

Implant Dimensions - Long vs. Short
4:00 pm - 5:30 pm

Do We Need Bone Augmentation? Does Length Matter?
Implant treatment planning has always relied upon length as a predictor of long term success. Literature is replete with statistics that favored longer implants till 2000. With the advent of short implants and improved surfaces, there is an increasing interest in the use of short implants that can often avoid additional grafting procedures and increased treatment time. What should be the minimal length of an implant to ensure long term success? This debate will explore the controversy of length from an evidence based model and clinical practice.

The Rationale for Longer Implants
AGD Subject Code: 694
Michael A. Pikos, DDS
- Diplomate, American Board of Oral Implantology/Implant Dentistry
- Diplomate, American Board of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery
- Recipient, Aaron Gershkoff Memorial Award, AAID
- Private practice, Palm Harbor, FL.

The use of “short” implants has been promoted and described in the literature over the past 5+ years. There is controversy however regarding whether these short implants should be used in all areas of the mouth. This clinical based presentation will focus on the advantages of using maximum length implants in both the maxilla and mandible. It is based on the speaker’s 29 years of clinical practice including the placement of more than 15,000 implants and will feature long term case results.

Learning Objectives: At the completion of this presentation, participants should be able to:
1. Understand the significance of bone density and long term implant success
2. Appreciate the significance of short vs. long implant use long term
3. Understand the advantages of using “nonshort” implants for oral reconstruction

The Versatile Short Implants
AGD Subject Code: 691
Marco Esposito, DDS
- Editor-in-Chief, European Journal of Oral Implantology
- Editor, Cochrane Oral Health Group
- Private Practice in Periodontology

A summary of the scientific evidence derived from randomized, controlled trials comparing short implants with longer implants placed in augmented bone will be provided. The audience will be provided with transparent and unbiased data on which they can base their clinical decisions. By relying on “solid” scientific data, the clinician will have less chance of unnecessary complications and patient morbidity. This is a scientific presentation and not an “it works in my hands” opinion-based presentation.

Learning Objectives: At the completion of this presentation, participants should be able to:
1. Understand that there is more reliable and less reliable clinical research
2. Grossly discriminate between reliable and not reliable clinical research
3. Have an idea on updated scientific data comparing short implants with longer implants in augmented bone

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Debating the Options for Practical Solutions