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RESEARCH ARTICLE

**MANAGEMENT OF DEHISCENCE DURING IMPLANT PLACEMENT WITH SANDWICH
 TECHNIQUE: A CASE REPORT.**

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Abstract

The replacement of single anterior teeth by means of endosseous implants implies the achievement of success in restoring both aesthetic and function. Dental implants are established substitutes for replacing missing teeth. For the successful implant placement, the volume of adequate bone at the recipient site is absolutely essential. Peri-implant dehiscence defects are most often encountered at the site of implant placement that requires bone augmentation. These defects may range from very small lack of marginal bone to large areas of denuded implant surfaces. Recent clinical studies have demonstrated that the application of various bone grafts in conjunction with placement of implants leads to successful coverage of the previously exposed implant surfaces. The present case report highlights the bone augmentation of the peri-implant dehiscence defect by novel Calcium phosphosilicate, Hydroxyapatite with collagen bone graft and GBR membrane while performing the first-stage implant surgery for a single edentulous area.

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Introduction:-

Implant therapy is regarded as an extremely reliable approach to replace missing teeth. As a general principle in implant surgery, implant surfaces should be surrounded by alveolar bone¹ to function optimally and it must be placed in a biologically acceptable, restoratively driven position. Hence, the three-dimensional positioning of the dental implant is crucial to a successful treatment outcome. However, with the loss of teeth, the alveolar bone remodels and decreases in dimensions at varying rates and degrees.²

Buccal bone is relatively thin and bone resorption after tooth extraction in buccal areas is faster. While preparing implant sites in narrow ridges, dehiscence or fenestration defects may occur frequently that threaten the survival of implants.³ Compared to the lingual bone, especially in the maxillary anterior region, buccal bony housing is thin; thus, bone resorption after tooth extraction in buccal areas is faster and far more prevalent. According to Lam⁴ the abundant bone volume does not remain more than a few years following tooth loss, and the original crestal width is reduced by at least 30% within 2 years after extraction.

To overcome the difficulty of space creation around buccal dehiscence defects, several treatment approaches, such as membranes with space fillers or titanium-reinforced e-PTFE membranes, are often utilized in GBR^{5,6} non-space making buccal dehiscence defects, commonly encountered in sites edentulous for more than 6 months, have been considered to be one of the most challenging defects. In order to provide prolonged space maintenance and wound

stabilization in nonspace making defects such as buccal dehiscence defects, Wang *et al.*⁷ has recently introduced the sandwich bone augmentation (SBA) technique.

In SBA technique, autogenous bone or fast-resorbing allograft is laid under the second layer of slow-resorbing allograft or xenograft to enhance vital bone-to-implant contact via 'creeping substitution' of the inner layer during the early wound healing period.^{8,9} In addition, the second cortical layer provides mechanical support for prolonged space maintenance via 'reverse creeping substitution.' Material selection has also been shown to influence the outcome of bone augmentation. Use of an absorbable membrane in combination with a bone filler showed comparable regenerative outcome as a non-resorbable membrane with a bone graft.^{10,11}

This case report describes an implant placement in the maxillary right canine region showing dehiscence on the labial cortical plate, along with Calcium phosphosilicate, Hydroxyapatite with collagen bone graft and GBR membrane placed.

Case Report:-

A male patient of age 28 years reported with a missing tooth irt 13 since 1 year (Fig. 1). The patient gives a history of Dental caries due to which the particular tooth was lost. Intraoral periapical radiographs and blood investigations to rule out systemic disorders were advised. Following complete clinical and radiographic evaluation implant prosthesis was planned.

On the day surgery patient was administered local infiltration anesthesia (2 % Lignocaine Hydrochloride with 1:80,000 concentration Adrenaline). Mid crestal and crevicular incisions with vertical releasing incision were made to elevate a full thickness mucoperiosteal flap extending from 11 to 13. On the elevation of the flap, bone dehiscence was observed on the labial plate. The osteotomy procedures were carried out under copious saline irrigation. A self-threaded two-stage implant fixture (Adin Dental Implant Systems Ltd, Afula, Israel) of dimension 3.5 × 11.5 mm was chosen and placed (Fig.2). After achieving a final torque, the dehiscence was augmented with Calcium phosphosilicate (Fig.3), Hydroxyapatite with collagen bone graft (Fig.4) by layering technique followed by placement of guided bone regeneration resorbable membrane covering the graft (Fig.5). Primary implant stability was checked with Ostell (Fig.6) and sutures placed (Fig.7). The patient was advised to take antibiotics and analgesics (Tab Amoxicillin 500 mg+ clavulanate potassium 125 mg, 3 times for 7 days, Tab aceclofenac 100, paracetamol 325 & serratiopeptidase 15, twice daily for 3 days).The patient recalled after one week for suture removal, healing was uneventful (Fig .8).

After 3 months patient came for the second stage of implant surgery, secondary implant stability was measured (Fig.9) and gingival formers were placed. One week after gingival former, secondary Impression was made and porcelain fused to metal prosthesis was fabricated and cemented (Fig.10,11). All the instructions for implant maintenance were given to the patient and follow up was carried out on a regular basis

Discussion:-

The management of dehiscence on the labial aspect of the maxillary left lateral incisor during implant placement is presented. A predisposing factor for the cause of dehiscence is an unfavorable frenum pull, prominent root contours, malpositioning of teeth, labial protrusion of root, thin bony plates, and long-standing trauma. Methods to reconstruct the destroyed alveolar bone include osteoconduction, osteoinduction, and GBR.^{12,13,14}

Utilizing collagen membranes to enhance bone augmentation in implant dehiscence defects were clinically and histologically evaluated. Histologic analysis can be considered the gold standard for evaluation of bone regeneration. Due to the difficulty in obtaining histologic materials from humans, animal studies possess the advantage of attaining on standardized lesions for GBR Dahlin *et al.*¹⁵ Hammerle *et al.*¹⁶ which follows the "PASS" principle (which stands for achieving primary wound closure, promoting angiogenesis, maintaining space for regeneration and obtaining primary implant, and blood clot stability) is aimed at promoting bone regeneration.¹⁷

Guided bone regeneration (GBR) along with the use of various barrier membranes to be a reliable method for the treatment of dehiscence-type of a defect. GBR involves the placement of an occlusal barrier which prevents invasion of non-bone forming cells from the surrounding soft tissues into the defect. It allows time and space for the bone forming cells to repopulate the defect.¹⁸

In the past expanded polytetrafluoroethylene (e-PTFE) membranes were proven effective but exposure, inflammation and compromising bone regeneration were frequently reported by Becker *et al.*,¹⁹ Nowzari and Slots.²⁰ The disadvantage of non-resorbable materials is the need for a second surgical procedure to remove the membrane. This led to the development of resorbable membranes. Resorbable membranes have shown improved tissue healing, decreased morbidity and fast resorption and reducing the risk of bacterial contamination showed in most cases of GBR, membranes are supported by protective materials consisting allografts, synthetic materials, and xenografts.²¹

Despite the success demonstrated with transplanted autogenous grafts, the use of such grafts is frequently impossible or impractical. For decades various types of synthetic and natural bone substitutes have been utilized for regenerative periodontal treatment in intrabony defects, ridge augmentations, socket preservation, sinus floor elevations etc.²²

Layering the mineralized cancellous and cortical bone allografts take advantage of the creeping and reverse creeping substitution healing processes and also mimics the macrostructure of native bone.²³ The present case we used synthetic material instead of allograft as synthetic bone grafts should aid in osteointegration, osteoconduction, and ideally should be biocompatible, show minimal fibrotic reaction, undergo remodeling and support new bone formation. From a mechanical point of view, it should have a similar strength to that of the cortical/cancellous bone being replaced. This needs to be matched with a similar modulus of elasticity to that of bone in an attempt to prevent stress shielding as well as maintaining adequate toughness to prevent fatigue fracture under cyclic loading. Synthetic materials have some of these properties which are composed of either calcium, silicon or aluminium.²⁴

Calcium phosphosilicate is a bioactive synthetic graft with an osteostimulative and osteoconductive property, manufactured by NovaBone, Florida, available in putty consistency. It consists of two particle phases: Phase 1 – 90–710 μ bioactive glass particles and Phase 2 – 32–125 μ calcium phosphosilicate. Phase 2 particles enhance the physical characteristics and improve handling. Its putty consistency makes it easy to manipulate and adapts well to defects. Spaces between particles permit rapid vascularization and bone ingrowth. Bone forms in several areas in the defect simultaneously, thus enhancing the regeneration. Histological examination of the treated sites showed ossification of the implant pores and the implant periphery.²⁵

Bowen *et al.*²⁶ also found that this graft material offers the potential for increasing new bone mass. A collagen membrane was trimmed and used to contain the bone grafts and also exclude the non-regenerative cells, such as epithelial cells from colonizing the site. This will enable osteoprogenitor cells to colonize the site and use the allografts as a scaffold to regenerate new vital bone. Collagen membranes are preferred because they are absorbable, biocompatible, and enhance hemostasis and chemotaxis of fibroblasts. In addition, a second surgical procedure to remove the membrane is eliminated, increasing patient satisfaction while reducing site morbidity, attachment loss, and treatment time.²⁷

Regarding mechanical implant stability, the bone-to-implant contact may not necessarily be as informative as commonly believed.²⁸ In trabecular regions or in studies where implants with a wound chamber design were used, the initial bony coating may be very thin and may therefore not contribute greatly to mechanical implant stability.²⁹ To determine mechanical implant stability, other tests can be applied like push-out or pull-out tests, or removal torque analysis experiments, which are used to measure implant anchorage in bone. A noninvasive and widely accepted technique is, however, resonance frequency analysis.³⁰ This technique can provide clinically relevant information about the condition of the bone-to-implant interface at any time interval after implant placement. Longitudinal monitoring of the resonance frequency analysis values may allow optimal loading times to be determined and identification of implants at risk. The original electronic RFA device used a direct connection (wire) between the transducer and the resonance frequency analyzer. The transducer was an L-shaped cantilever beam, which was connected to the implant via a screw attachment. A piezoelectric crystal on the vertical portion of an L-shaped beam was used to stimulate the implant/transducer complex; a second piezoelectric crystal on the opposite side of the beam was used as the receiving element to detect the response of the beam.³¹

The results of an RFA are expressed as an implant stability quotient (ISQ) on a scale from 1 to 100, which represents a standardized unit of stability. Generally, the ISQ has been found to vary between 40 and 80 for clinically stable implants.³² While the original RF analyzer was subjected to a variety of inconsistencies, and hence yielded a wide spectrum of ISQ values within a range of normality indicating implant stability²⁹ the more recent

wireless probe represented a clear improvement in assessing implant stability with higher sensitivity, robustness, and reproducibility. RFA was performed in this case report by using the Osstell™ mentor (Integration Diagnostics AB, Gamlestadsvagen 3B, Gotenborg, Sweden) instrument on implant by inserting a standardized abutment (Smartpeg™, Integration Diagnostics AB, Gamlestadsvagen 3B, Goteborg, Sweden) of fixed length into implant.

The transducer probe (Osstell™ mentor Probe II) was held so that the probe tip was aimed at the small magnet on top of the Smartpeg™ at a distance of 2–3mm. The probe was held still during the pulsing time until the instrument beeped and displayed the ISQ value. Double measurements were made for a buccal and an occlusal positioning of the Osstell™ mentor Probe II which is in accordance with the study done by Sim and Lang.²⁹

Conclusion:-

Presence of dehiscence during implant procedure can be successfully treated by GBR procedures. A simultaneous procedure of implant placement and GBR using bone grafts and membranes yield good results. The procedure helps in bone formation and prevents failure of implants and improves the prognosis. Hence Simultaneous implant placement with the sandwich bone augmentation technique predictably regenerated bone on implant buccal dehiscence defects.



Fig 1:- Pre-operative



Fig 2:- Buccal dehiscence irt 13



Fig 3:- Primary implant stability with Ostell



Fig 4:- Placement of Calcium phosphosilicate bone graft



Fig 5:- Placement of Hydroxyapatite with collagen bone graft



Fig 6:- Placement of GBR membrane



Fig 7:- Sutures placed



Fig 8:- One week post-operative



Fig 9:- Secondary stability with Ostell



Fig 10:- Final prosthesis lateral view



Fig 11:- Final prosthesis frontal view

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