

## **Prosthodontics at a crossroads**

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Five simple tools – the lever, wedge, wheel and axle, pulley and screw – have existed for millennia. Each of these tools and their underlying principles have been refined, improved and combined in various ways to produce other tools and engineering principles which are no longer simple, but have in turn revolutionized modern dental techniques. The developments have been particularly important in the disciplines of Surgery and Prosthodontics since they are basic tenets for achieving mechanical stabilization with biologically dependent efficacy and effectiveness treatment outcomes. A scientific biotechnological transition in the predictable and time-dependent nature of an induced endosseous interfacial response to alloplastic implants was first described by PI Branemark in 1977. It was subsequently expanded upon at the Toronto Symposium of 1982 and a threshold of therapeutic possibilities was crossed.

A review of the salient features of the impact Osseointegration (OI) on the discipline demands a reconciliation of long term outcome results in diverse clinical situations with internationally recognized and relevant clinical criteria. It also analyzes the emergence and application of the OI concept in the context of those enduring advantages which have changed the discipline's profile as well as challenged its direction for the future.

### References

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