

## **Basic Treatment Needs for Implants in Prosthetics**

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After a time of reasoning about acceptance and feasibility of dental implants for replacing teeth or dentitions, after a phase of finetuning treatment protocols with regard to treatment acceleration and optimizing insertion time and esthetic results in the midface zone, prosthodontists should state the basic need for dental implants in prosthodontic treatment and define a mandatory implementation of implant treatment in prosthodontics.

This means to define the benefits of dental implants in regard of the fundamental treatment aims and needs in prosthodontics. These should be seen in the role of protection of dental hard tissues from restorative procedures, in the role of creating compatible retention of dental prothesis and in transmitting forces generated by the masticatory muscles directly into the skull with the purpose not to engage soft tissues in the role of load transmission and thus keep them from the danger of being loaded by removable prosthesis and so damaged by masticatory forces.

Full dentures in the mandible still – as originally stated – will be one of our main troubles as well as the retention as the soft tissue protection concerns. This in any case can only be achieved by distal extensions of retention bars for overdentures or cantilever bridgework.

Reported failures with lateral three unit bridgework in the mandible also makes implants to a preferred indication. In any other case of single tooth gap implants will be essential for hard tissue conservation of the dental tissues.

The resisting unilateral dentition in maxilla always will cause problems of prosthesis retention in conventional dentures. Usually satisfactory retention can only be created by insertion of dental implants.

Besides, anxiety and psychic alterations in increasing complicated social systems more and more drive fully maxillary edentate patients to their dentists for relief of their dental problems.

This is to be seen as a personal resume of a review after thirty years of implant treatment with approximately 10 000 implants in the University of Graz/Dental Clinic

Thus it is seen that implants are an indispensable tool for satisfactory prosthetic treatment.

The surgical part is more and more concentrated in prevention from atrophy and post-

extraction resorption for achieving stable and esthetic results in tooth replacement with dental implants.