CLINICAL AND RADIOGRAPHIC EVALUATION OF EARLY PLACEMENT, EARLY LOADING DENTAL IMPLANTS: A PROSPECTIVE STUDY

By

Dr. MADASU KRISHNAVENI

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Dr. K.V. Prabhakara Rao

DEPARTMENT OF PERIODONTICS AND ORAL IMPLANTOLOGY
GITAM DENTAL COLLEGE & HOSPITAL
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ABSTRACT

Objectives:

The purpose of this study was to determine the success rate of early placement and early loading dental implants for a period of nine months.

Materials & methods:

14 patients treated with an implant supported restoration to restore a single tooth gap were reviewed for nine months. All implants had been inserted 4-8 weeks following tooth extraction. All implants were loaded after six weeks by provisional crowns and permanent restoration was given after six months of provisional restoration using porcelain fused to metal. The plaque index, gingival index, and radiographic parameters such as crestal bone height were assessed at baseline, three months, six months and nine months. Probing depth and sulcular bleeding index were measured at six months and nine months interval. The crestal bone loss was assessed by digital software.

Results:

All fourteen patients with a mean age of 32.5 were regularly followed for nine months. Plaque index, gingival index, sulcular bleeding index around the implant and full mouth were comparable and changes in these indices were statistically significant. None of the implants were mobile during the follow up period. The mean crestal bone loss was 1.22mm, suggesting a significant bone remodelling around implant.

Conclusion:

Within the limits of the study, early placement and early loading dental implants for restoration of single tooth edentulous areas show favourable results.

Key words:

healing extraction socket, early implant placement, early implant loading, single tooth replacement.