Review on Dental Implant and Infection Management Approach

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Abstract

In the past few decades, the use of dental implants for oral rehabilitation has already been proven to have overall positive long-term and shortterm results. However, there is a high chance of postoperative infection due to local environmental factors, hindering implant success. Postoperative infection must be treated as early as possible for the implant to succeed. The Medline, Pubmed, Embase, NCBI, and Cochrane databases were searched for describing the factors and ways that the implants can get infected and the treatments of implant infections. The inclusion criteria for this study encompassed articles relating to dental implants and infection. Articles that did not focus primarily on this topic were excluded. Additional publications that were referenced in these studies were also found and utilized. The focus was awarded to those studies which reported data on the type of antibiotics and surgical procedure applied to treat the infection. Current antibiotic-prescribing habits are in dire need of improvement in treating endodontic infections. As antibiotics tend to be overprescribed for endodontic infection management, it would be wise to introduce educational initiatives to encourage better, more coherent use.

Keywords: Dental implants, Early/late failure, Osseointegration, Infection

INTRODUCTION

In the past few decades, the use of dental implants for oral rehabilitation has already been proven to have overall positive long-term and short-term results [1, 2]. As such, dental implants are a reliable therapeutic option in various scenarios necessitating restoration or replacement, such as bridge abutments, crown support, and the placement of removable dentures. However, short-term and long-term complications are likely to arise from this practice [3]. The periodontal ligament sling fibers around natural teeth run perpendicularly; the supracrestal connective tissue fibers run parallel with implants. In contrast, the arrival into the oral cavity of prosthetic replacements for teeth, including titanium implants, creates a stark difference from natural teeth in connecting to connective tissues and supporting alveolar bone. Whether or not this provides an easier route for infection than natural teeth is unknown and has yet to be determined. Osseointegrated implants, in oral implantology, are biocompatible titanium rods surgically implanted in alveolar bone, right up to their surface and without an interposed layer of soft tissue. Prosthetic and restorative fixtures such as crowns, abutments, and other supporting prostheses are then attached to the implants. A tight bond, a biological process called Osseointegration, is formed between the implant and the bone. The microbiota that colonizes implants is similar to the microbiota surrounding teeth. The subgingival bacterial species include Bacteroides forsythus, Porphyromonas gingivalis, Campylobacter gracilis, Fusobacterium nucleatum, Peptostreptococcus micros, Streptococcus intermedius, and all species associated with healthy teeth colonize the infected implants.

However, as microbial complexes differ by patients, desirable therapy must be concentrated on the specific infection. The prevalence of postoperative infections ranges from 1.6% to 11.5% and are considered a rare complication [4, 5] that occurs in the month after placement of a dental implant [4]. Understanding the clinical definition of Osseointegration and its histomorphometric definition is still ongoing and impacts implant survival significantly through clinical determinants [6]. Implant failure necessitates the removal of a failed

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How to cite this article: Alrakkad IA, Alrakkad RA, Altamimi MS, Alshammari NM, Alghuraymil AAS, John MAM, et al. Review on Dental Implant and Infection Management Approach. Arch Pharm Pract. 2022;13(1):37-9. https://doi.org/10.51847/vHOoPCPEmv

implant. It is the situation in which, upon examination, the implant does not meet quantitative measurement criteria for implant survival. These criteria take many issues into accounts, such as implants indicating above 0.2 mm of bone loss after the first year of loading, symptomatic mobility in implants [7], and post-insertion pain. Indeed, dental implants should not be painful. As soon as primary healing is obtained, and the lack of pain under vertical or horizontal forces is a preliminary subjective criterion for implant survival, it is vital to provide sufficient preliminary implant stability for Osseointegration to be successful. Another important determinant is local bone density in the patient, which will greatly influence the stability necessary to achieve implant success. However, even though occlusal factors participate in the health of an implant, peri-implantitis and peri-implant mucositis are mostly bacterial illnesses and both present clinical similarities with periodontal diseases. There are similitudes between peri-implant illnesses and periodontal illnesses regarding bacteria, which similitudes were described by Mombelli in 1987 [8]. Peri-implant mucositis is a reversible soft tissues inflammation, the peri-implant equivalent of gingivitis, and early investigations by Berglundh et al. in 1991 [9] asserted that the peri-implant mucosa indicated equivalent responses in its resistance to bacteria as the sub-gingival sulcus. Soon afterward, studies done by Quirynen et al. (2007) [10] and Nevins and Langer (1995) [11] demonstrated that implants could be successfully utilized to rehabilitate and repair teeth that have previously had periodontitis. However, the peri-implantitis risk in patients with a periodontitis background is quadrupled in this case (odds ratio 4.7; 95% CI 1.0-22), according to retrospective studies by Roos-Jansaker et al. (2006b) [12], Evian et al. (2004) [13] and others, and a prospective study by Karoussis et al. (2003) [14]. Systematic reviews [15], Schou, 2002 [16], Klinge et al., 2012 [17], as well as the Consensus report of the European Workshop on Periodontology [18] are all in consensus that peri-implantitis is often observed in patients with a periodontitis background.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Articles were selected from the PubMed database, and the Mesh was searched for the following key terms: (("Dental implant infection "[Mesh]) AND ("diagnosis and treatment" [Mesh]) OR (Dental implant and infection Mesh])).

The inclusion criteria for this study encompassed articles relating to dental implants and infection. Articles that did not focus primarily on this topic were excluded. Additional publications that were referenced in these studies were also found and utilized.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Implant failure is a possible result of infection if left untreated. Indeed, infection is the usual leading cause of complications within the preliminary healing period. Early/late mucosal dehiscence, fistulas, swelling, and suppuration are likely findings indicating implant failure. Such symptoms, if they occur early in the primary healing period, point to a far more serious issue than if they were to occur further along in the healing period as a result of the primary bone healing process disturbance that they imply, thereby jeopardizing the successful integration of the implant [19, 20]. Redness and swelling of the surrounding tissue may or may not manifest, and pain is not often present. As long as the procedure has not resulted in more bone loss than that attributed to the remodeling, the term "Peri-implant mucositis" is utilized for the infection. This makes it comparable to gingivitis in natural teeth. As for periimplantitis, alveolar bone loss occurs around the implant and is usually well demarcated. However, bone destruction can occur without the implant showing any signs of mobility until Osseointegration has entirely failed because Osseointegration in the bottom of the implant has remained healthy. After the onset of infection, it is recommended that the patients be prescribed antibiotics for seven days (amoxicillin with potassium clavulanate or clindamycin). Systemic and local antibiotics reduce the number of anaerobic bacteria, including periodontal pathogens, and a simultaneous some improvement in aspect should follow [21]. Chlorhexidine digluconate mouthrinses should also be performed. Suppose this therapy does not control the infection. In that case, another antimicrobial must be prescribed, followed by removal of the failed implant (in case the implant had mobility and advanced bone loss). The bacterial profiles that were diagnosed in peri-implantitis induced by functional (occlusal) overloading and peri-implantitis because of infection were different, especially using direct phasecontrast microscopy and culturing [22].

The highly significant time in diagnosing if an implant will be successful is the first two years after it was placed. The general state of the affected site along the implant is likely to determine the infection's nature and results. Additionally, it is also likely that the impact of implant failure, or the effect on the denture, bridge, or supported crown, is greater than that of natural tooth loss since it leads to a quick loss of periimplant bone [8]. The extent of infection surrounding a failed implant can be severe, in some cases requiring hospitalization [23, 24]. Several characteristics are implant failure's suspected risk factors, with which they have been associated [24]. These factors can be mechanical or anatomical, such as poor implant positioning (in a way that does not fulfill its mechanical expectations and cannot be restored) or insufficient alveolar bone height or density [25, 26]. Particularly, poor bone quality and quantity are general factors likely to contribute to early implant failure because bone healing requires the skeletal tissues' great biological effort. Generally, a good bone quality predicts a high success rate for preserving the alveolar bone around oral implants [27]. Smoking is harmful to proper wound healing and will likely jeopardize the success of a bone graft and dental implant. Indeed, smokers with or without bone grafts presented a higher implant failure rate and a higher degree of postoperative complications [28].

CONCLUSION

The osseointegration process can exhibit progressive marginal loss of bone, caused by poor implant-to-bone connection, under unpleasant systemic and local conditions. Indeed, titanium and jaw bone is very different contact surface elements required to coexist; an unpleasant chronic environment, usually of a traumatic or bacterial nature, can cause tissue interface to become distressed besides the general weakening of systemic health.

Despite the high success rate, implants are known to fail. Surgical trauma, peri-operative contamination, and the absence of primary stability appear to be the main reasons for early implant failure. By opposition, occlusal overload and peri-implantitis are usually associated with late failure. Periimplantitis, an inflammatory disease affecting soft and hard tissues around a functional implant, results in rapid or gradual bone loss and likely results in osseointegration loss [29]. Bacterial infection plays the main role in the disease etiology. Clinical infection symptoms include suppuration, bleeding upon gentle probing with an instrument, hyperplastic soft tissues, gradual bone loss, and color alterations of the marginal peri-implant tissues point to an inflammatory reaction in which bone support for the implant is likely compromised or lost [30].

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS: None CONFLICT OF INTEREST: None FINANCIAL SUPPORT: None ETHICS STATEMENT: None

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