

Other journals in brief

A selection of abstracts of clinically relevant papers from other journals.

The abstracts on this page have been chosen and edited by John R. Radford.

IMPLANT PLATFORM DIMENSIONS

Double-blind randomized controlled trial study on post-extraction immediately restored implants using the switching platform concept: soft tissue response. Preliminary report

Canullo L, Iurlaro G *et al.* *Clin Oral Impl Res* 2009; 20: 414–420

No better short-term outcomes when mismatching abutment dimensions and implant platform.

The 'platform-switch' concept comprises restoring an implant with an abutment of a smaller diameter with the aim of preserving the crestal bone height and soft tissues. Twenty-two immediate implants were placed in the same number of consecutive patients. Immediately after the insertion of the implant, the patients were randomly assigned to a test group whose implants were restored with a 3.8 mm diameter abutment and a control group that received a 5.5 mm diameter abutment. In both groups, the diameter of the implant platform was 5.5 mm. Twenty-four months after placement of the implants, all were clinically osseointegrated and there was neither bleeding on probing nor probing depth measurements more than 3 mm in both the test or control group. 'Platform-switching' also did not result in an improved vertical in-fill of the bone gap between the original extraction socket and implant.

DOI: 10.1038/sj.bdj.2009.565

TEMPOROMANDIBULAR PAIN

Temporomandibular pain and depression in adolescents — a case-control study

Hirsch C, Türp J C. *Clin Oral Invest* 2009; Published online 1 April

Adolescents with TM pain have higher depression scores.

Contrary to what is found in adults, there are conflicting results as to whether or not there are associations between orofacial pain and depression in adolescents. From a population of 24,129 German adolescents, a sub-sample of 455 subjects suffering from depression were identified using a questionnaire. From this, 29 were selected who also had temporomandibular (TM) pain. The controls comprised 44 age-matched TM pain-free adolescents. Those with TM pain had a significantly higher depression score than controls. In addition, those with TM pain also reported more headaches, stomachaches and backaches. With respect to musculo-skeletal pain 'reduction of depressive symptoms may be a precondition for the effective reduction of pain'.

DOI: 10.1038/sj.bdj.2009.566

TOOTH AVULSION

Splinting duration and periodontal outcomes for replanted avulsed teeth: a systematic review

Hinckfuss SE, Messer LB. *Dental Traumatol* 2009; 25: 150–157

'The likelihood of successful periodontal healing after replantation is unaffected by splinting duration'.

Should avulsed teeth only be splinted for short periods of time in order to minimise replacement resorption? From an initial list of 16,090 citations, a qualitative systematic review identified 4 retrospective and 4 prospective studies. These were selected on the basis as to whether or not they reported that avulsed teeth should be splinted for more or less than 14 days. From a pooled sample of 138 avulsed permanent teeth, the likelihood of successful periodontal healing after replantation, is unaffected by splinting for either longer or shorter times than 14 days. These studies however, do not distinguish between immature teeth or those with fully developed roots 'nor between immediately-replanted teeth and those replanted after 10 min (where functional periodontal healing is unlikely)'.

DOI: 10.1038/sj.bdj.2009.567

MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS

Isolated abducens nerve palsy following mandibular block articaine anaesthesia, a first manifestation of multiple sclerosis: a case report

Kocer B, Ergun S *et al.* *Quintessence Int* 2009; 40: 251–256

'Mandibular block articaine...may precipitate MS onset or attack'.

Isolated abducens nerve palsy has been reported as an initial manifestation of multiple sclerosis (MS) in as high as of 12% (17% in Discussion) of those who develop the condition. It has also been stated that spinal anaesthesia may exacerbated MS. This paper describes a 30-year-old man who presented to a neurology department with sudden diplopia on lateral gaze, following an inferior dental nerve block with articaine for tooth extractions the day previously. According to specific diagnostic criteria, MS was diagnosed after magnetic resonance imaging of the cranium and biochemical tests. The authors cite others who have reported transient palsies of those cranial nerves that transverse the cavernous sinus following dental local anaesthesia by diffusion of local anaesthetic solution via the pterygoid venous plexus into this structure.

DOI: 10.1038/sj.bdj.2009.568