

**THE EFFECT OF ONE PIECE IMPLANT
LOCATOR VERSUS TWO PIECES ON THE
MARGINAL BONE LOSS IN IMPLANT
SUPPORTED OVERDENTURE**

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بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

{قالوا سبحانك لا علم لنا إلا
ما علمتنا انك أنت العليم الحكيم}

صدق الله العظيم

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Dedication

Dedicated to,

My loving family without their guidance, wisdom and knowledge, I would not be able to achieve my goals and reach my dreams.

List of content

		page
1	Introduction	1
2	Review of literature	3
I	The state of edentulism	3
1-	Sequels of edentulism	3
2-	Solutions for problems of edentulism	4
II	Dental implants	7
1-	One piece versus two pieces implants	8
2-	Implant supported overdentures	11
A	Advantages of implant supported overdenture	11
B	Disadvantage of implant supported overdenture	13
C	Classification of implant supported overdenture	14
3-	Attachments used in implant supported overdentures	17
A	Bar attachment	18
B	Magnetic attachment	19
C	Stud attachments	20
	Locator attachment system	22
D	Telescopic attachment	25
4-	Loading protocol in implant	26
A	Delayed loading	26
B	Immediate loading	27
C	Immediate versus delayed loading	31

III	Methods of evaluation of successful implant	33
A	Clinical evaluation	33
B	Radiographic evaluation	34
3	Aim of the study	41
4	Materials and methods	42
5	Results	71
6	Discussion	81
7	Summary	89
8	Conclusion	90
9	References	91
10	Arabic summary	

List of figures

Figure number	Description	page
1	Completely edentulous male patient	45
2	Upper and lower secondary impression	45
3	Upper and lower casts mounted on the articulator	48
4	Radiographic stent containing the metallic balls	48
5	Digital panorama showing the metal balls	50
6	The surgical kit	50
7	Crestal incision	52
8	Reflection of the mucoperiosteal flap	52
9	Locator drill marking the implant site	53
10	Parallel pins used to align the implants sites	53
11	Implant package	54
12	Ratchet was used to completely seat the implant	54
13	The implant platform becomes in level with bone	55
14	Final suturing using 000 silk suture	55
15	Punch used to expose the implant site	56
16	Exposed implant site	56
17	Locator abutment fixed on the implants	58
18	Go Direct implant package	58
19	The one piece implant screwed manually to the implant site	59
20	Final suturing using 000 silk suture	59
21	Denture relief opposite abutment sites	61
22	Metal housing with black processing cap	61

23	The metal housing and the spacer placed over the abutments	63
24	The locator core tool	63
25	Removing the black processing caps	64
26	After removal of the black processing cap	64
27	After seating of the retentive cap	65
28	The radiographic stent (fitting surface)	65
29	The radiographic stent (top view)	67
30	The imaging plate in its protective bag	67
31	The Rinn XCP instrument with the imaging plate inside the bite block	68
32	The patient during the exposure protocol	68
33	Measuring bone loss	70
34	Measuring pocket depth	70
35	Mean values of the recorded bone heights within each group	72
36	Mean values of the recorded pocket depths within each group	74
37	Mean values of the bone height changes during the follow up period for the two groups	77
38	Mean values of the pocket depth changes during the follow up period for the two groups	79

List of tables

Table number	Description	page
1	Means, standard deviation (SD) values and the results of Anova for repeated measures for comparison between the recorded bone heights within each group.	71
2	Group I pair wise comparison of the recorded bone heights using simple mean effect with Bonferrioni correction.	73
3	Group II pair wise comparison of the recorded bone heights using simple mean effect with Bonferrioni correction.	73
4	Means, standard deviation (SD) values and the results of Anova for repeated measures for comparison between the recorded pocket depths within each group.	74
5	Group I pair wise comparison of the recorded pocket depths using simple mean effect with Bonferrioni correction.	75
6	Group II pair wise comparison of the recorded pocket depths using simple mean effect with Bonferrioni correction.	76
7	Means, standard deviation (SD) values and the results of Mann Whitney test for comparison between the bone height changes during the follow up period for the two groups.	77

8	Means, standard deviation (SD) values and the results of Mann Whitney test for comparison between the pocket depth changes during the follow up period for the two groups.	79
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Introduction

Edentulous patients unusually suffering from lack of optimal stability and retention with their mandibular dentures especially in cases with severely resorbed mandible.

Currently, implant supported overdentures are a reliable treatment alternative for completely edentulous patients. Many patients, who suffered from retention problems of mandibular dentures, did not desire complete prosthesis. The implant supported overdentures offered them a treatment alternative, that was reliable and that provided phonetic, esthetic and economic advantages. It provides better chewing experience, masticatory performance, less complaints and higher satisfaction when compared with conventional complete denture treatment.

Many attachments have been used to retain implant supported overdentures including bars, magnets, studs and telescopes. The locator attachment is a new system that does not involve the splinting of implants. Since it was introduced in 2001, the locator has been widely and successfully used to support dentures. This attachment is self-aligning, has dual retention and is available in different colors with different retention values. Although there have been few clinical studies on the locator system, locator attachments have many clinical advantages such as their availability in different vertical heights, their resilience, retentiveness and durability. In addition, repair and replacement are quick and straightforward.⁽¹⁾

Numerous studies have demonstrated that osseointegrated implants used as anchors for complete denture have become a widespread and predictable treatment modality for the edentulous jaw. The high success rate of interforaminal implants used to support mandibular overdentures is well documented with longitudinal studies.

The introduction of the two-stage surgical procedure for osseointegration with delayed loading has been challenged rapidly by proposals for different clinical protocols. The objective was a decrease in overall treatment time via single-stage surgery and immediate prosthesis function. The anterior zone of edentulous mandibles provided the most predictable results with both fixed and overdenture prostheses; however, reports on immediate loading protocols in edentulous maxillae were not supported by comparable long-term follow-up periods, as demonstrated in early research reports on osseointegration. ⁽²⁾

Nowadays one piece implant is used for retaining overdentures and has better results when immediately loaded compared with the traditional two pieces implant and attachment which is loaded according to the Branemark loading protocol.

Review of literature

I. The state of edentulism

1. Sequels of edentulism

Loss of all permanent teeth is the terminal outcome of a multifactorial process involving biologic processes (caries, periodontal disease, pulpal pathology, trauma, oral cancer) as well as non biologic factors related to dental procedures (access to care, patient preferences, treatment options ,etc.). The distribution and prevalence of complete edentulism between developed and less-developed countries may be associated with a complex interrelationship between cultural, individual, access to care, and socioeconomic factors. World Health Organization databanks indicate that caries is still prevalent in the majority of countries internationally, with some reporting 100% incidence in their populations; severe periodontal disease is estimated to affect 5% to 20% of the population, and the incidence of complete edentulism has been estimated between 7% and 69% internationally.⁽³⁾

After teeth loss patients suffer from tremendous consequences concerning; jaws anatomical structure, function, esthetics and psychology. The close relationship between the tooth and the alveolar process continues throughout life. Wolf's law states that "bone remodels in relationship to forces applied". Bone stimulation through teeth and its periodontal ligaments maintains its form and density.^(4, 5)

Lack of stimulation to the residual bone due to tooth loss with its periodontal ligament support causes a decrease in the trabeculae and bone density with loss of the external bone width and height, a perfect example

of disuse atrophy. Periodontal bone loss before teeth extraction, hyperparathyroidism, hypogonadism and nutritional deficiencies share in accelerating bone resorption. Bone loss is not limited to the alveolar bone; also portions of the basal bone may be resorbed. ⁽⁶⁻⁸⁾

Tooth extraction in the mandible will result in continual reduction in alveolar bone volume. It is more dramatic in the mandible than the maxilla. The continued resorption of the mandibular alveolar bone is associated with greater difficulty with mandibular denture construction, use and satisfaction. This absence of teeth is also associated with reduced social and physiologic function. ^(9, 10)

The effect of bone loss together with the aging process cause facial changes and esthetics consequences as decreased facial height, rotation of the chin forward, deep facial grooves, loss of tone of facial muscles of expression and thinning of the vermillion border of the lips. These changes together give the patient an old prognathic appearance. ^(11, 12)

2. Solutions for problems of edentulism

The construction of complete denture was the only solution for the edentulous arch for many decades. This treatment modality faced many problems especially in the lower jaw. The decreased area of coverage, flooding action of saliva and the activity of the tongue resulted in unstable prosthesis. A removable prosthesis neither stimulates nor maintains the bone health. It accelerates the bone loss especially for patient continues wearing ill fitting denture. ⁽¹³⁾

The problems of complete dentures in continued alveolar bone loss leading to lack of stability and retention especially of the lower denture