

Dental Implant Systems Introduction

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Implant Systems - Advantages/Disadvantages*

If I could harness all the energy that has been expended on discussions about which implant system is better or integrates faster or is easier to use, I would be able to power the world for years. This is a constant debate and I don't pretend to have all of the answers, but I do have some strong feelings and I'm going to air them out right here for everyone to see. I will first discuss specific differences and advantages of different categories of implants such as endosseous implants and sub periosteal implants, then I will discuss differences and advantages of general types of implants such as external hex, internal hex, etc. Next we will talk about microsurface technology and how that factors into the equation and we will also discuss how different techniques factor in as well. Finally we will discuss the various brands available on a one by one basis looking at whatever advantages and disadvantages there might be. Enjoy... S. Robert Davidoff

One thing that I will say to prospective patients at the outset:

At the present time (May, 2008), with regard to endosseous root form implants, there is no indication whatsoever that any given implant, surface treatment, prosthetic attachment, placement technique or brand of implant offers any perceptible advantage to the patient in terms of the clinical result. For the present, all of these root form implants are created equal in terms of their effectiveness for patient treatment, however, there is significant research going on in the micro-structure of dental implants and we have some promising directions to follow. One notable advance is the deposition of calcium and phosphate at the nano level of the implant surface such as the osseon surface of the Intra-Lock implant system (please note that I am involved with this company). If your dentist prefers a particular implant or a particular surface or technique, his or her experience with this system is the overriding factor in your treatment and if you believe your dentist to be capable and well trained in these techniques, go with their suggestions and don't waste your time trying to outguess your doctor.

Some day, we might have an implant or a surface or a technique that really proves superior in terms of patient treatment. When that happens, I will be the first to jump on the band wagon...

S. Robert Davidoff, DMD, FACP

* Some of the information in this section may be outdated. If you are aware of any discrepancies, please contact me.
SRD