33rd International Conference on

DENTAL AND ORAL HEALTH August 13-14, 2018 Dubai, UAE

Current clinical concepts in regenerative periodontal therapy

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The main goal of periodontal therapy is to treat the infection caused by periodontal pathogenic biofilm and to arrest or I slow down further attachment and bone loss, ultimately preventing tooth loss. Successful treatment is evidenced clinically by a reduction of probing pocket depths (PPD) and a decrease in bleeding scores (i.e. bleeding on probing) along with the reformation of a dentogingival environment that allows effective oral-hygiene measures. These clinical improvements should ideally be accompanied by gain of clinical attachment level (CAL) and radiographic bone-fill. Even though conventional periodontal therapy - consisting of non-surgical debridement and/or surgical access, including various types of access flaps or tissue-resective techniques - may lead to substantial clinical improvements, residual pockets may either persist or the healing is associated with significant loss of attachment and increase in soft-tissue recessions. In addition, deep residual pockets associated with the presence of intrabony defects or Class-II and Class-III furcation involvements have been strongly associated with increased risk for tooth loss. Consequently, one of the clinically most important goals of periodontal therapy is the reduction or complete eradication of deep pockets (i.e. of sites \geq 6 mm) and elimination of furcation defects. Ideally, treatment of intrabony and furcation defects should result not only in probing-depth reduction, gain of clinical attachment, and radiographic bonefill, but also in defect closure via periodontal regeneration (i.e. formation of root cementum, periodontal ligament, and alveolar bone). The rationale for integrating regenerative/ reconstructive protocols in the overall treatment concept is supported by findings from clinical studies that show generally larger clinical improvements following such approaches when compared to conventional treatments, such as open-flap debridement (OFD).

Biography

Mallika Sethi is working as an Associate Professor in Periodontology. She has completed her Mastership and Diploma in Lasers by Society for Oral Laser Applications, University of Vienna. She has also completed Comprehensive Implantology Program (ICOI), University of Murcia, Spain. She has also been an External Examiner in Periodontology. She has been awarded with the prestigious Fellowship of Academy of Oral Implantology. She has been conferred consecutively with the award of excellence committed to dental excellence, India. Her international poster at 7th Biennial Malaysian Society of Periodontology, Kuala Lumpur, was one amongst the four posters selected from India.

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