

Short implants and their alternatives

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When facing lack of bone in vertical dimensions, short implants, vertical bone augmentation procedures and nerve repositioning procedures are the available treatment options. This review is an attempt to clarify the indications of each treatment options in different cases, in addition to reviewing their pros and cons. After a PubMed search for short implants, nerve repositioning, distraction osteogenesis, onlay bone grafts, guided bone regeneration, sinus floor elevation and zygomatic implants, related systematic reviews on any of the mentioned treatment options, which were published on or after 2005 were selected for thorough review. Regarding 6 mm implants, the reported conclusions are mostly drawn from prospective and retrospective clinical studies. Bearing that in mind, the conclusions propose 6 mm implants as a successful treatment option. Considering 8 mm implants, the conclusions drawn are based on high quality randomized controlled trials. So that, robust evidence supports their high rates of survival. Above-mentioned advanced surgeries are successful treatment options, as well. However, the severity and rates of complications, morbidities, costs and surgical times are higher in these complex surgical approaches. In general, short implants have a good reputation in today's world of implant dentistry and the literature suggests them as the superior treatment option in possible situations. Inclusively, this treatment option is mostly to the advantage of patients by reducing costs and morbidities. However, in the cases which are not feasible to be treated by short implants, including excessive vertical bone deficiency and bone deficiency in the esthetic zone, for example, more complicated procedures are essential.

Biography

Pedram Pakzad has completed his DDS and Implant-related studies from Isfahan Azad University and has also received his Clinical Implant Dentistry Diploma.

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