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Dear Colleagues:

This edition of my newsletter presents information on a new generation implant which will change how we treatment plan our patients.

The actual metallurgy of implants hasn't changed much since I started placing them in 1986. The designs shown had a great deal of variation in surface texture and thread design but all were commercially pure grade four titanium.



Branemark



IMZ



Straumann

In areas of high occlusal load a 4mm or greater diameter implant has always been required. Many patients have a horizontal deficit and therefore needed large bone grafts prior to implant insertion. This increased the cost substantially to the patient and required additional surgery.

Several manufacturers have been working for years to increase the tensile strength of dental implants beyond that of pure titanium. If this could be accomplished narrower diameter implants could be placed in deficient areas and still be successful.

Straumann released the first of these new generation implants two months ago.

It is a combination of Zirconium and Titanium and called Roxoild.

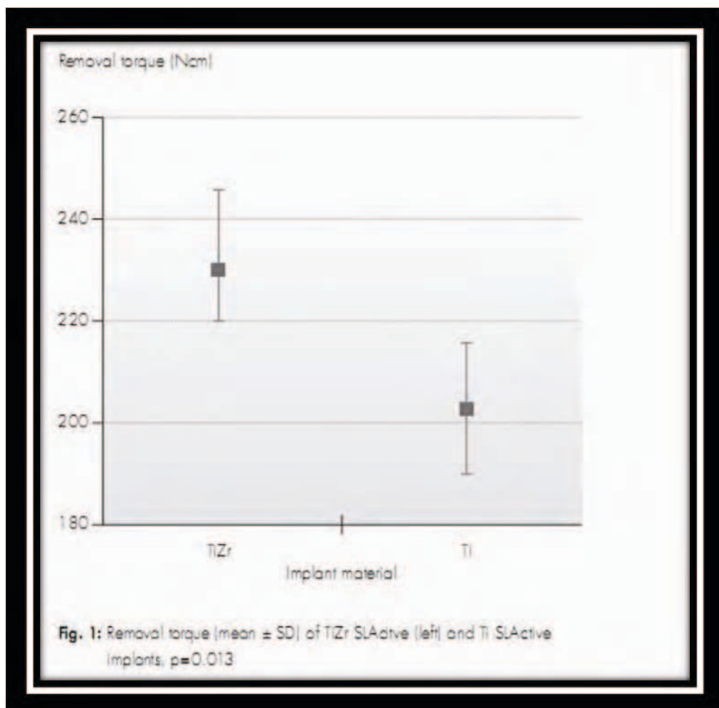
The combination of these highly compatible elements has a 50% higher tensile strength than pure titanium.



Roxoild
Implant



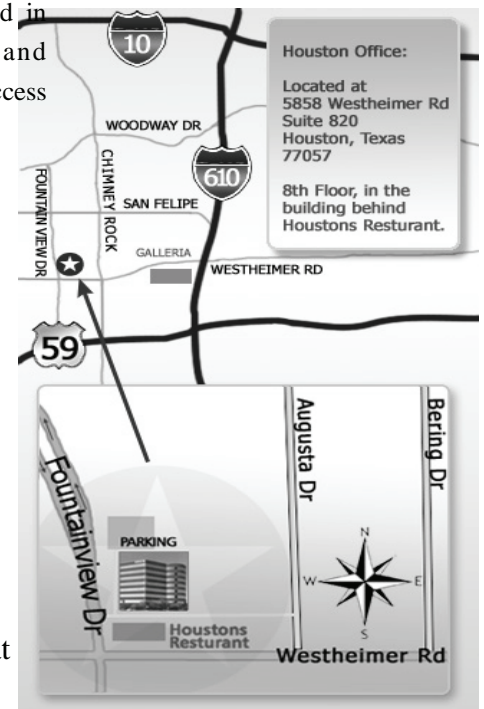
The major concern I had concerning this implant was even if the tensile strength is superior, because of the reduced surface area the bone to implant contact (BIC) would be insufficient. Zirconium however apparently increases the bone to implant contact. This improved the osseointegration even though the diameter is reduced.



These implants should open up rehabilitation with implants in many of our patients with thin ridges who before were not candidates without grafting.

If you have other questions concerning this implant and what it do for your patients and your practice feel free to give me a call.

Here is a map to our office which is conveniently located in Houston (Westheimer and Fountainview) with easy-access and free parking.



Our practice provides the very latest in periodontal and implant care for your patients. The services we provide include:

1. Regenerative procedures for treatment of advanced periodontal disease
2. Periodontal plastic surgical procedures including connective tissue grafts, gingival grafts, and ridge regeneration for pontic sites
3. Advanced implant placement
4. Site development for implants—(bone regeneration for deficient areas)
5. Treatment of bone loss around failing implants

Our philosophy is a team approach incorporating your treatment plan with ours.

After office hours I am available by contacting the answering service at 713.954.1334 or my cell at 713.444.8500.