Indications for immediate loading of implants and implant success

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Abstract:

It was the aim of this review to compare the survival and success rates of immediately loaded dental implants with those of conventionally loaded dental implants, based on prospective controlled studies and prospective studies without controls. Studies on immediate loading were identified in the current literature by electronic and hand searches. Only clinical data on root-form or cylindrical threaded oral implants were included. For immediate loading of oral implants in the edentulous and partially dentate, mandible and maxilla controlled studies could be found. All of these studies were based on limited patient numbers. Therefore, definitive conclusions could not be drawn concerning survival and success rates of immediately loaded implants compared with conventionally loaded implants. The compilation of the current literature shows that prospective controlled studies as well as prospective studies without controls using several different approaches to immediate loading have demonstrated high implant survival and success rates. However, more high-level evidence-based studies are needed to demonstrate the relative merits of immediate loading compared with conventional loading in all potential applications.