



Book Review

review

Immediate Loading of Dental Implants: Theory and Clinical Practice

-Reviewed by David A. Garber, DMD

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What Is It About?

Immediate loading has become one of the hottest arenas in implant dentistry. Hundreds of papers have appeared in the dental literature, and now an authoritative and comprehensive book *Immediate Loading of Dental Implants: Theory and Clinical Practice*, has been published. In a comprehensive manner, it deals with the benefits and the concepts of immediate loading, various treatment strategies, and the reasons for choosing one prosthetic alternative rather than another.

What Does It Cover?

Specific topics addressed include: preparation required for a successful immediate loading experience, patient gains and treatment-team benefits achievable with immediate loading, and financial impacts on the clinical practice. Methods of increasing implant primary stability and decreasing the stresses imposed on the immediately loaded implants are explored. Aesthetic requirements when treating fresh extraction sockets, and pros and cons of screw-retaining versus cementing provisional restorations are enumerated. Failures also receive attention, and the reader may be surprised to learn that a mobile implant may still be salvageable under certain circumstances.

Clinical protocols of treating the edentulous mandible, the edentulous maxilla, the anterior maxilla, the anterior mandible, the posterior mandible, and the posterior maxilla are each addressed in separate chapters. Potential surgical and prosthetic complications are enumerated, along with any possible immediate and late failures, with a well developed list of solutions. The book's final chapter focuses on the NanoTite™ Implant, explaining why the surface topography is different from bioactive coatings that have been used in the past and its potential relevance to immediate loading.

What Stands Out?

In addition to being highly readable, what distinguishes *Immediate Loading of Dental Implants* is its systematic use of charts, flow charts, and a materials check-list for each treatment option. For each indication, a chart shows several possible approaches, with the pros and cons for each. Readers will also appreciate the chart with eight features, similar to a cooking recipe with specific icons. For each treatment option, the degree of technical difficulty is presented, along with the comprehensive interaction required among the members of the implant team (surgeon, restorative dentist, and laboratory), the treatment time necessary, clinical financial factors, risks involved, aesthetic concerns, and the literature substantiating the technique. Another diagram shows the individual responsibilities of each treatment team member.

Clinical Relevance

As the authors point out, when immediately loading dental implants, the treatment team must plan all the clinical protocols and timing, as well as be prepared for all relevant potential risks. This book addresses the planning protocols and communication process for even the experienced clinician.

David A. Garber, DMD



Dr. Garber completed his post-doctoral training in Periodontics and fixed Prosthodontics (periodontal prosthetics) from the University of Pennsylvania, School of Dental Medicine in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He is an active member of numerous dental societies and a board member of the American Academy of Esthetic Dentistry. He has a dual appointment at the Medical College of Georgia School of Dentistry and Louisiana State University. Dr. Garber lectures extensively worldwide and maintains a private practice, limited to advanced restorative and implant therapy, in Atlanta, Georgia.

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First published in French in 2007 by Quintessence International, Paris. Théorie et pratique de la mise en charge immédiate. English translation by Jay K. Weiss, DMD, and Serge Szmukler-Moncler, DDS, IEP, PhD. English edition editing and production: Quintessence Publishing Co Inc, Chicago ISBN 978-2-912550-50-7 The book may be ordered on-line at www.quintessence-international.fr. Retail cost is € 210. A discount price of € 185 is available. Please use code 31dav.