



Lecture Abstract

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Main implantological topics:

- Implant macro- and micro-design
- Biomechanics
- Restorative and esthetic dentistry

Professional skills:

- Postgraduate specialities in Prosthodontics and Implant Dentistry at NYU, New York (USA), Chair: Dennis Tarnow
- Restorative associate in private practice limited to implant dentistry & oral surgery, Prof. Dr. Dhom & Partner, Germany
- Part-time faculty member at Steinbeis University Berlin, Germany, in the programs “Master of Science in Oral Implantology & Periodontology”

Success factor esthetics: Are there objective parameters?

With increasing surgical reliability of implant dentistry and documented high success rates the standards expected of implant-supported dental restorations are rising. Especially on the part of patients there is a growing desire for an esthetic solution equivalent to the appearance of natural teeth. To be preferred as the treatment of choice, implant-supported restorations should imitate the appearance of natural teeth. The condition of the peri-implant soft tissues appears to be a critical determinant. Current data concerning the long-term results of dental implants demonstrate that the success of the individual treatment is still being measured by the survival of the implant or superstructure. There is obviously a lack of objective methods of measurement in order to assess esthetic quality. The current presentation will address the relevant parameters influencing the esthetic outcome of the peri-implant mucosa around implant-supported restorations. A natural symbiosis of a functional and esthetic treatment approach, considering biological and restorative aspects, as well as provisionalization, abutment design and material characteristics will be highlighted. The reproducibility of newer indices and scores allowing for a more objective appraisal of the esthetic short- and long-term results of various surgical and prosthetic implant protocols, and the influence exerted by the examiner's degree of dental specialization will be critically discussed.