



Implant Problems in the Dental Emergency Service: A Retrospective Analysis



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Objectives:

The per-patient-number of dental implants increases year after year. This study summarizes the implant complications that occurred in a university hospital's dental emergency service in a four-year period.

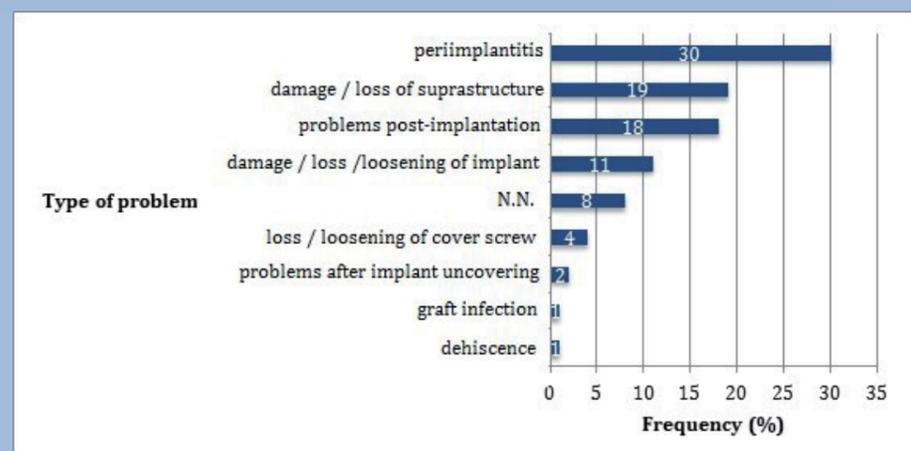
Methods:

The data of four years (01-01-2010 – 12-31-2013) were analyzed retrospectively. In this time period, 16,296 patients sought treatment in the dental emergency service. The Chi-Square Test was used to detect significances.

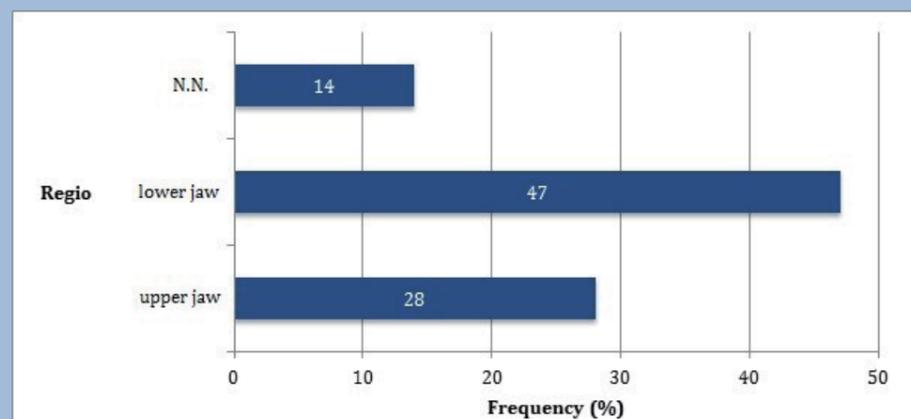
Results:

Out of all 16,296 emergency service patients, 0.6 % (n=94) came due to problems with one or more dental implants. Significantly more women (n=53; 56.4 %) were affected (p=0.023). Median age was 54.5±16.2 years. Implants in the lower jaw were distinctly more often the reason for the visit; Most frequent diagnosis was periimplantitis (31.9%; n=30) followed by damage or loss of the supraconstruction (20.2 %; n=19).

70.2% (n=66) of the affected implants were inserted alio loco versus 25,5% (n=24) in domo. Most complications occurred less than one year after implantation (n=11; 11.8%). Problems due to implants that were in situ more than one year (n=6; 6.5%), more than two years (n=4; 4.2%) or more than three years (n= 1; 1.1%) were less frequent.



Tab. 1 – Distribution of implant problems



Tab. 2 – Location of implant problems

Conclusions:

Problems with dental implants remain a scarce reason for visiting the dental emergency service. Periimplantitis hardly leads to pain, nonetheless it was the most common implant problem in our findings. The facts that women are affected significantly more often as well as implants in the lower jaw cause problems significantly more often could be of interest looking at possible causes.