

Risks and complications in membrane guided bone regeneration - a retrospective analysis

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Author: Frank Peter Strietzel

Universitätsklinikum Charité, Zentrum für Zahnmedizin, Abteilung für Oralchirurgie und zahnärztliche Röntgenologie, Germany

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Introduction

The method of guided bone regeneration (GBR) has made it possible to place endosseous implants in unfavourable anatomic conditions. GBR is a clinically and evidence based method (1,2). Expanded polytetrafluoroethylene (ePTFE) as a non-resorbable material is widely used. Premature membrane exposures may put the treatment success at risk (3-5).

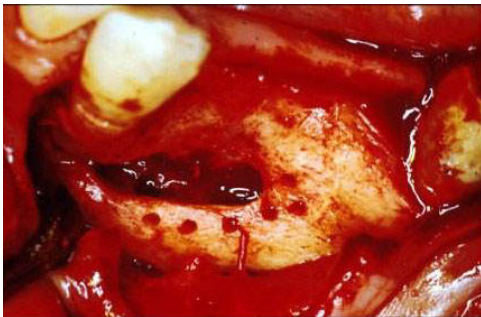


Figure 1: Defect in region 34, 35 prepared for GBR by means of autogenous bone chips and a GoreTex membrane.

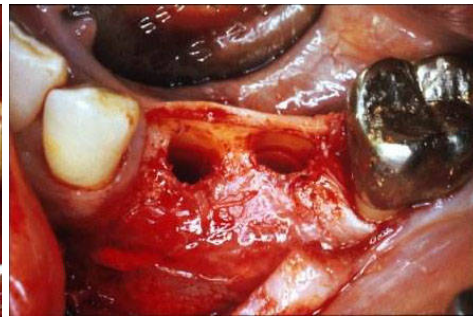


Figure 2: The same site 4 months later: the membrane was removed and the implant bed preparation is just finished.

Objective

It was the aim of this study to ascertain the amount of premature membrane exposures and to investigate possible reasons.

Material and Methods

Retrospective investigation of the treatment course in 72 patients undergoing GBR; data capture between 03/1993 and 02/2000 (44 female and 28 male patients, median of age 38,5 years [min. 18 y., max. 68 y.]). Using GoreTex augmentation material (ePTFE) (W.L.Gore & assoc., Flagstaff, Arizona/USA) for GBR, membrane fixation by means of titanium pins (Frios-membrane pins, Friadent, Mannheim, Germany) or cover screw. Statistical analysis by cross tables, calculation of the Spearman correlation coefficient.

Parameter	Group 1	Group 2
Membrane covering the alveolar ridge	78 %	97 %
Membrane below the incision line	44 %	72 %
Smoker	15 %	25 %
Space maintaining defect	22 %	12 %

Table 1: Distribution of frequencies of the parameters investigated in group 1 (all included patients, n = 72) and group 2 (patients who revealed premature membrane exposures, n = 32)

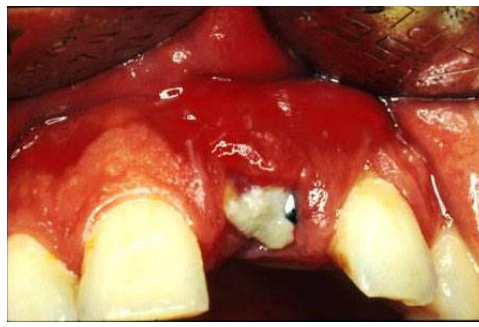
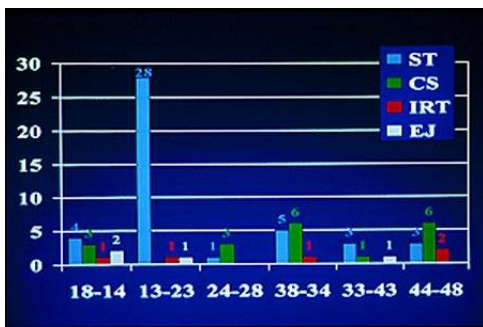


Figure 3: Topographic distribution of frequencies of indication groups (partial edentulism: ST = single tooth replacement, CS = cantilever situation, IRT = interrupted row of teeth; complete edentulism: EJ = edentulous jaw) concerning the sextants (regions 18-14, 13-23, 24-28, 38-34, 33-43, 44-48)

Figure 4: Premature partial membrane exposure and periimplant mucositis in region 22 (GoreTex membrane, 1 titanium pin exposed).

Results

-44 % premature membrane exposures (n=32), 14 patients uncontrolled, loss of 2 implants. -28 % of premature membrane exposures revealed between the 1st and 14th postoperative days, 72 % revealed after uneventful primary wound healing after the 21st postoperative day -Significant correlations (Spearman) between the parameter "premature membrane exposure" and the parameters "membrane below the incision line" ($r=0,42$, $p=0,0003$), "membrane covering the alveolar ridge" ($r=0,41$, $p=0,0005$) and "smoker" ($r=0,24$, $p=0,041$). -Tendency of correlation between the parameter "premature membrane exposure" and the parameters "defect configuration" ($r=0,21$, $p=0,078$). -No correlation concerning the parameters "type of temporary denture", "augmentation material below the membrane", "gender", "indication group".

Discussion and Conclusions

The application of the non-resorbable material ePTFE (GoreTex®) should be critically weighed up concerning the choice of incision line and the flap design respectively as well as the defect morphology, smoking habits and the size and site of the membrane covered defect. Alternative methods should be taken into account

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Abbreviations

GBR guided bone regeneration ePTFE expanded polytetrafluoroethylene r correlation coefficient p niveau of significance

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Correspondence address:

OA Dr. Frank Strietzel
 Universitätsklinikum Charité, Zentrum für Zahnmedizin, Abteilung für Oralchirurgie und zahnärztliche Röntgenologie
 Augustenburger Platz 1
 13353 Berlin
 Tel.: 450-62609

Risks and complications in membrane guided bone regeneration – a retrospective analysis

F.P. Strietzel
 Universitätsklinikum Charité, Medical Faculty of the Humboldt-Universität of Berlin, Dental School,
 Department of Oral Surgery and Dental Radiology (Head: Prof. Dr. P. A. Reichart)

Introduction

The method of membrane guided bone regeneration (GBR) has made it possible to place endosseous implants in unfavourable anatomic conditions. GBR is a clinically and evidence based method^{1,2}. Expanded polytetrafluorethylene (ePTFE) as a non-resorbable material is widely used. Premature membrane exposures may put the treatment success at risk³⁻⁵. It was the aim of this study to ascertain the amount of premature membrane exposures and to investigate possible reasons.



Table 1: Distribution of frequencies of the parameters investigated in group 1 (all indications) and group 2 (patients who revealed premature membrane exposures), n = 32.

Results

- 44 % premature membrane exposures (n=32), 14 patients uncontrolled, loss of 2 implants.
- 28 % of premature membrane exposures revealed between the 1st and 14th postoperative days, 72 % revealed after uneventful primary wound healing after the 21st postoperative day
- Significant correlations (*Spearman*) between the parameter „premature membrane exposure“ and the parameters „membrane below the incision line“ (r=0,42, p=0,0003), „membrane covering the alveolar ridge“ (r=0,41, p=0,0005) and „smoker“ (r=0,24, p=0,041).
- Tendency of correlation between the parameter „premature membrane exposure“ and the parameters „defect configuration“ (r=0,21, p=0,078).
- No correlation concerning the parameters „type of temporary denture“, „augmentation material below the membrane“, „gender“, „indication group“.



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Materials and Methods

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- Using GoreTex[®] augmentation material (ePTFE) (W.L.Gore & Assoc., Flagstaff, Arizona/USA) for GBR, membrane fixation by means of titanium pins (Frios[®]-membrane pins, Friadent, Mannheim, Germany) or cover screw.
- Statistical analysis by cross tables, calculation of the *Spearman* correlation coefficient.

Conclusions

The application of the non-resorbable material ePTFE (Gore Tex[®]) should be critically weighed up concerning the choice of incision line and the flap design respectively as well as the defect morphology, smoking habits and the size and site of the membrane covered defect. Alternative methods should be taken into account.

Table 1: Distribution of frequencies of the parameters investigated in group 1 (all indications) and group 2 (patients who revealed premature membrane exposures), n = 32.

Parameter	Group 1	Group 2
Membrane covering the alveolar ridge	88 %	89 %
Membrane below the incision line	44 %	72 %
Smoker	15 %	25 %
Upper teeth only defect	22 %	12 %

Table 1: Distribution of frequencies of the parameters investigated in group 1 (all indications) and group 2 (patients who revealed premature membrane exposures), n = 32.