Program Speaker - Dr. Hans-Peter Weber

Title
Short and Narrow-Diameter Implants

Abstract
In modern dental care, dental implant supported prostheses are a predictable, and in many indications the preferred alternative for replacing failing or missing teeth. Long-term stability of dental implants depends to a large extent on the presence and maintenance of sufficient alveolar peri-implant bone. If insufficient bone height and/or width for the placement of so called regular implants - in length or diameter - is not available, various options for alveolar ridge augmentation exist to ultimately allow the placement of regular implants. Some of these procedures are very predictable, others less. In any case, they involve additional treatment steps, tend to be more invasive, require often longer healing times, and will lead to increased costs.

The use of short and/or narrow-diameter implants offers the opportunity for less invasive and more efficient implant prosthodontic treatment in terms of time and cost. However, the long-term efficacy of these options has to be comparable to ‘regular’ implants placed with or without bone grafting.

It is the purpose of this presentation to review the scientific and clinical evidence for the predictability of various short or narrow-diameter implants in clinical use, and to demonstrate clinical indications, in which short or narrow-diameter implants may be considered a predictable alternative.

Learning Objectives
1. Define ‘short’ and ‘narrow’ in the context of dental implant designs
2. Review the scientific and clinical evidence for the predictability of various short or narrow-diameter implants in clinical use
3. Demonstrate clinical indications, in which short or narrow-diameter implants may be the primary treatment choice

Biography
HANS-PETER WEBER, DMD, Dr. Med. Dent., is Professor and Chair of the Department of Prosthodontics at Tufts School of Dental Medicine. He holds dental degrees from the University of Berne, Switzerland (1976) and the Harvard School of Dental Medicine (1990), as well as Certificates in Prosthodontics (1979) and Periodontology (1984) from the University of Berne. Besides his administrative duties as department chair, he is actively involved in research and teaching at Tufts and sees patients for dental implant and prosthodontic care in part-time private practice in Boston. He has contributed extensively to the scientific and clinical literature in the field and is a regularly invited panelist at national and international meetings. He is a Co-Editor of “Clinical Oral Implants Research” and serves on the review boards of several other journals. Dr. Weber is
a Past President of the Academy of Prosthodontics and currently the President Elect of the Greater New York Academy of Prosthodontics. He is an Honorary Member of the American College of Prosthodontists and a Fellow of the International Team of Implantology (ITI).