

Short implants: predictable solution or an easy way out?

One of the most controversial debates in contemporary implant dentistry concerns the relative merits of short implants compared with more traditional longer implants. Short dental implants are increasingly used for the prosthetic solution of the extremely resorbed posterior zone of partially edentulous patients. In the past, short implants were commonly associated with lower survival rates due to the reduced bone-to-implant contact. New developments of the different implant systems, especially regarding the surface micro-topography and chemistry, have resulted in higher survival rates of short implant. Lack of standard criteria in the outcome assessment makes it difficult to draw conclusions on the clinical performance of short implants