

Evaluation of hybrid implant in posterior edentulous maxilla with inadequate bone

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Abstract

Aim of this study is to investigate.

Hybrid implant has got satisfactory results in our previous study in various edentulous areas with inadequate bone for endosseous implant placement. The credibility of the implant in the areas of posterior maxilla needed to be evaluated.

Objectives

- To evaluate the hybrid implant postoperatively 18 months for gingival status, pain, peri-implantitis and mobility, so that it can be applied in posterior maxillary edentulous spaces with inadequate bone as an alternative to conventional implant.

Materials and methods

15 patients were rehabilitated in the posterior edentulous areas with hybrid implant. We intended to study the rehabilitation of posterior maxillary edentulous space i.e. Maxillary- premolar, 1st molar and 2nd molar area with hybrid implant and evaluate the hybrid implant post operatively for 18 months (1st month, 3rd month, 6th month, 12th month, 18th month).

Results

- During the study period the implant system presented with no gingivitis, peri-implantitis, and pain.
- The periotest test values show the implant system to be very much stable.
- Also proves to be safe, economical and clinician and patient friendly compared to other implant systems.

Conclusion

- Hybrid implant system proves to be very effective in rehabilitating the posterior maxillary regions with inadequate bone.
- Also proves to be safe, economical and clinician and patient friendly compared to other implant systems.

Keywords: Hybrid Implant; Sinus Lift; Posterior Maxillary Edentulous Areas.

1. Introduction

In 2014 Varghese Mani et al¹ reported a novel implant system which can very well handle atrophic maxilla without sinus lift and grafting procedures. A report of two cases on atrophic posterior maxilla had been given with a follow up of one year. The implant showed good stability with minimum postoperative complication. Moreover the CBCT shows the implant osseointegrated with no peri-implant bone loss. Here we are reporting the results of fifteen implants placed in relation to posterior maxillary region and the stability of the implant has been tested with periotest post operatively at various intervals (1st month, 3rd month, 6th month, 12th month, 18th month).

2. Materials and methods

POPULATION: All patients above 20 years who reported to outpatient department of Mar Baselios Dental College, Kothamangalam for replacement of the missing tooth according to the inclusion and exclusion criteria. All the patients were explained about the method of the study, about the new implant system, possible complications and other alternative methods of replacement of missing teeth and a detailed consent is taken from patients who are willing to participate in the study

Inclusion criteria

- All patients above the age group of 20 years.
- Patients who needs replacement of single or multiple teeth in the posterior maxillary edentulous spaces (maxillary –pre-molar, 1st molar, 2nd molar areas).
- Proper oral hygiene.
- Adequate patient compliance.

Exclusion criteria

- Medically compromised patients.
- Inadequate patient compliance.
- Patients with craniofacial syndromes.

4) Smokers

3. Research design

A prospective research design with a follow up during the 1st month, 3rd month, 6th month, 12th month and 18th month postoperative periods.

After the placement of hybrid implant patients are evaluated for gingival status, peri implantitis, pain and mobility (with periostest) during the 1st, 3rd month. During the third month the implant is loaded and again evaluated for the same at sixth month, 12th month, 18th month.

4. Procedure of hybrid implant placement

After giving a chlorhexidine rinse, operative site is wiped with gauze and local anaesthesia with adrenalin 1:200000 is given. A crevicular incision continued with a crestal incision followed by a vertical release incision in the anterior region is given. A triangular mucoperiosteal flap is elevated and the alveolar bone is exposed (FIG-1).

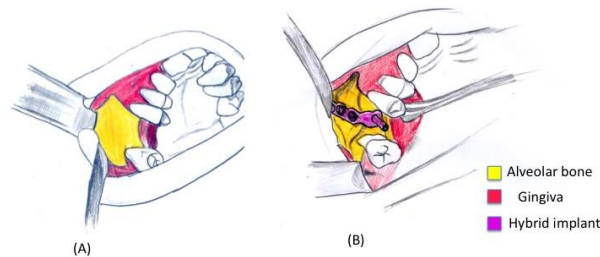


Fig. 1: (A) – Elevation of Mucoperiosteal Flap, (B) – Adaptation of Hybrid Implant.

The implant is molded to the contour of the exposed alveolar bone in such a way that the abutment is projecting into the oral cavity in the direction of the tooth replaced. In cases of knife-edge ridge patterns a small crestal portion of the alveolar bone shaved to make the surface of the alveolus flat. This will aid in the submerging of the hybrid implant plate into the alveolar bone. After proper adaptation the implant is fixed to the alveolar bone using titanium screws of size 2x6 mm. Two screws are placed in the buccal part and one screw in the palatal region. Before closure of the mucoperiosteal flap a horizontal incision is placed only the periosteal part of the flap. This will aid in the proper closure of the flap. The closure is done with 3-0 silk suture. The abutment will be the exposed part of the implant projecting into the oral cavity in the direction of missing tooth. A course of antibiotics and analgesics is given for five days. Patient is recalled after 7 days for suture removal.

The implant is loaded after 3 months depending on the stability value checked with Periostest. The armamentarium required for the placement of hybrid implant are as follows (FIG-3)-

- 1) NO -16 BP blade and handle
- 2) Periosteal elevators – molt no 9, Howarths
- 3) Austin's retractor
- 4) Self-holding screw driver
- 5) 2X6 mm titanium screws
- 6) Adsons tissue holding forceps
- 7) Suture material (3-0 Surgi silk)
- 8) Suture cutting scissors
- 9) Needle holder
- 10) Irrigation needle and syringe
- 11) Kidney tray
- 12) Suction apparatus
- 13) Plate bender
- 14) Micro motor headpiece and bur



Fig. 2: A-Hybrid Implant View 1, B-Hybrid Implant View 2, C-Hybrid Implant View 3, D-Armamentarium for Hybrid Implant Placement.

5. Clinical pictures

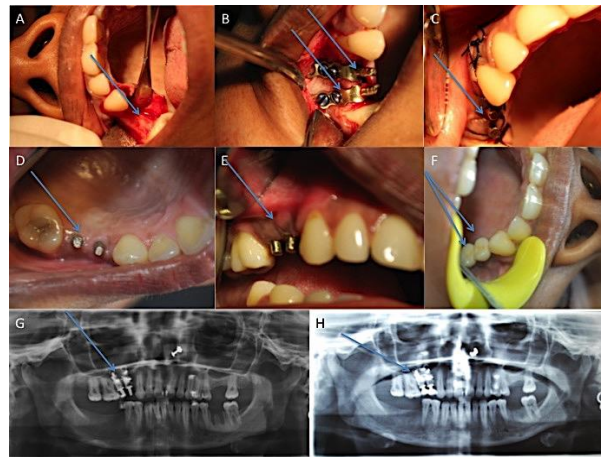


Fig. 3: Case 1 (A- Raising Mucoperiosteal Flap, B-Hybrid Implant Adapted and Fixed with 2x6 Mm Screws, C-Closure of Mucoperiosteal Flap, D & E -3 Month Post-Operative Occlusal View and Buccal View ,G -3 Month Post-Operative Opg Before Loading of Hybrid Implant, H-Post Loading 18 Months.).

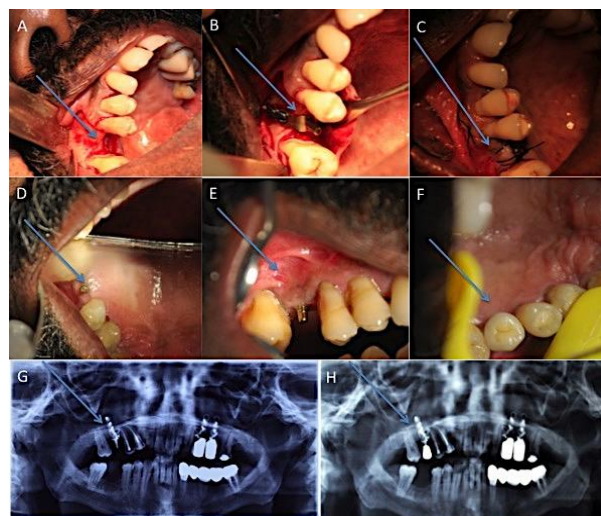


Fig. 4: Case 2 (A- Raising Mucoperiosteal Flap, B-Hybrid Implant Adapted and Fixed with 2x6 Mm Screws, C-Closure of Mucoperiosteal Flap, D & E -3 Month Post-Operative Occlusal View and Buccal View , G -3 Month Post-Operative Opg Before Loading of Hybrid Implant, H-Post Loading 18 Months.).

6. Statistical analysis

In this study the patients who were implanted are checked for gingival index, pain, peri implantitis and mobility periotest during first month, third month, sixth month, one year and one and a half years. The frequency distribution of gingival index, pain, peri implantitis and mobility periotest during first month, third month sixth month, one year and one and a half years are calculated. Bar charts are also drawn. It is also tested if there is any significant difference in mean mobility periotest among the three months. Repeated measures ANOVA is used to for the analysis. In the analysis significance level is taken to be 0.05 (i.e., if the p-value is less than 0.05, reject the null hypothesis or it can be concluded that the hypothesis is statistically significant) and the tests are two-tailed. The analysis is conducted using Microsoft Excel (2010) and SPSS (22.0.0.0).

7. Study of age and sex

The descriptive statistics of the age is obtained below. The mean value, standard deviation, maximum and minimum values of age are computed.

Table 1: Descriptive Statistics

	N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation
Age	15	25.00	56.00	45.533	10.908

From the above table it can be observed that the mean value of age is 45.533 years with a standard deviation of 10.908. The frequency distribution of sex is obtained below.

Table 2: Frequency Distribution of Sex

Sex	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Male	12	80.0	80.0	80.0
Female	3	20.0	20.0	100.0
Total	15	100.0	100.0	

The table above suggests that there are 12 (80%) males and 3 (20%) females in this study. A bar chart is also drawn below.

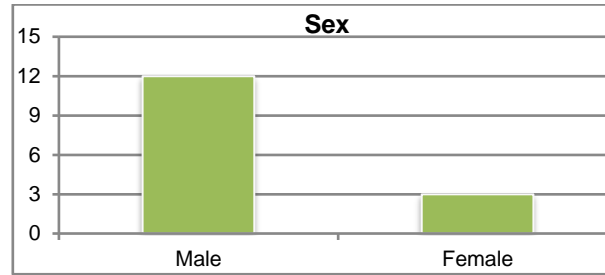


Fig. 1: Bar Chart of Sex.

Study of gingival index during first month, third month, sixth month, one year and one and a half years

The presence of gingival index during the first, third, sixth month, one year and one and a half years for the patients is studied. The frequency distribution is given below.

Table 3: Frequency Distribution of Gingival Index

Gingival Index	Month					Total
	First month	Third month	Sixth month	One year	One and a half year	
No inflammation	13	15	15	15	15	73
Mild inflammation	2	0	0	0	0	2
Moderate inflammation	0	0	0	0	0	0
Severe inflammation	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	15	15	15	15	15	75

From the above table it can be observed that out of the 15 patients, 13 patients had no inflammation of gingival index. Only 2 patients had mild inflammation.

The bar chart is also given below.

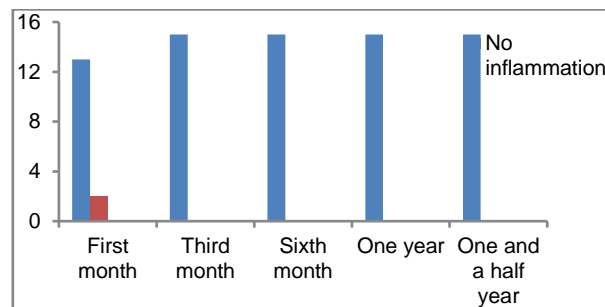


Fig. 2: Bar Chart of Gingival Index.

Study of pain during first month, third month, sixth month, one year and one and a half years

The presence of pain during the first, third, sixth month, one year and one and a half years for the patients is studied. The frequency distribution is given below.

Table 4: Frequency Distribution of Pain

Pain	Month					Total
	First month	Third month	Sixth month	One year	One and a half year	
No pain	15	15	15	15	15	45
Mild	0	0	0	0	0	0
Moderate	0	0	0	0	0	0
Severe	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	15	15	15	15	15	45

From the above table it can be observed that none of the patients had any severity – mild, moderate and severe of pain.

The bar chart is also given below.

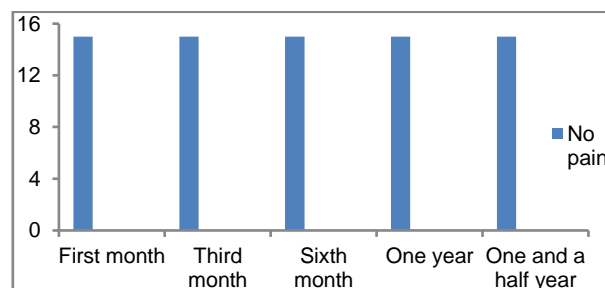


Fig. 3: Bar Chart of Pain.

Study of peri implantitis during first month, third month, sixth month, one year and one and a half years

The presence of peri implantitis during the first, third, sixth month, one year and one and a half years for the patients is studied. The frequency distribution is given below.

Table 5: Frequency Distribution of Peri Implantitis

Peri implantitis	Month					Total
	First month	Third month	Sixth month	One year	One and a half year	
No	15	15	15	15	15	45
Yes	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	15	15	15	15	15	45

From the above table it can be observed that none of the patients had any symptoms of peri implantitis. The bar chart is also given below.

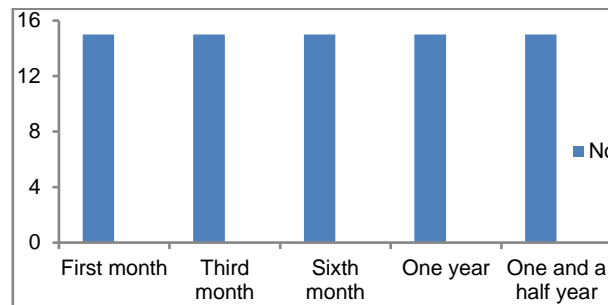


Fig. 4: Bar Chart of Peri Implantitis.

Study of mobility periostest during first month, third month, sixth month, one year and one and a half years

The presence of mobility periostest during the first, third, sixth month, one year and one and a half years for the patients is studied. The frequency distribution is given below.

Table 6: Frequency Distribution of Mobility Periostest

Mobility periostest	Month					Total
	First month	Third month	Sixth month	One year	One and a half year	
Grade 0	15	15	15	15	15	45
Grade 1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Grade 2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Grade 3	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	15	15	15	15	15	45

From the above table it can be observed that all the 45 patients, 15 patients each month had grade 0 mobility periostest. The bar chart is also given below.

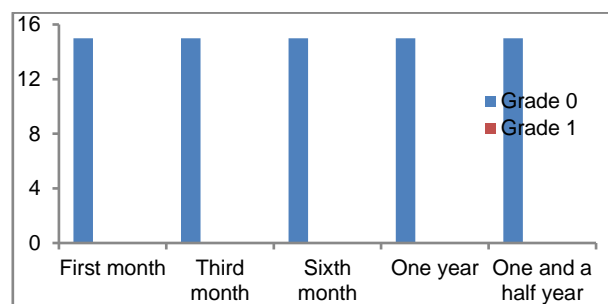


Fig. 5: Bar Chart of Mobility Periostest.

Comparison of mobility periostest among the different time points

Repeated measures ANOVA is used to test the null hypothesis that there is no significant difference in mean mobility periostest among the different time points – first month, third month, sixth month, one year and one and a half years. The results are given below.

Table 7: Descriptive Statistics

	Mean	Std. Deviation	N
Mobility 1 month	-.107	1.515	15
Mobility 3 month	-2.153	1.125	15
Mobility 6 month	-2.840	.842	15
Mobility 1 year	-3.153	.655	15
Mobility 1 and half year	-3.447	.614	15

The descriptive statistics suggest that the mean mobility periostest decreases as the time period increases.

Table 8: Multivariate Tests

Effect	Wilks' Lambda Value	F	Hypothesis df	Error df	Sig.
Time	.063	40.713	4.000	11.000	.000

From the above table it can be concluded that there is significant difference in mean mobility periotest among the different time points – first month, third month, sixth month, one year and one and a half years. The post-hoc test is conducted and the results are given below.

Table 9: Turkey's Pot-Hoc Test

(I) Time	(J) Time	Mean Difference (I-J)	Std. Error	Sig.
1 Month	3 Month	2.047	0.324	0.000
	6 Month	2.733	0.304	0.000
	1 year	3.047	0.325	0.000
	1 and a half year	3.340	0.285	0.000
3 Month	1 Month	-2.047	0.324	0.000
	6 Month	0.687	0.219	0.007
	1 year	1.000	0.238	0.001
	1 and a half year	1.293	0.230	0.000
6 Month	1 Month	-2.733	0.304	0.000
	3 Month	-0.687	0.219	0.007
	1 year	0.313	0.104	0.009
	1 and a half year	0.607	0.152	0.001
1 year	1 Month	-3.047	0.325	0.000
	3 Month	-1.000	0.238	0.001
	6 Month	-0.313	0.104	0.009
	1 and a half year	0.293	0.100	0.011
1 and a half year	1 Month	-3.340	0.285	0.000
	3 Month	-1.293	0.230	0.000
	6 Month	-0.607	0.152	0.001
	1 year	-0.293	0.100	0.011

From the above table it can be observed that there is significant difference in mean mobility periotest among each pair of time periods. The profile plot is given below.

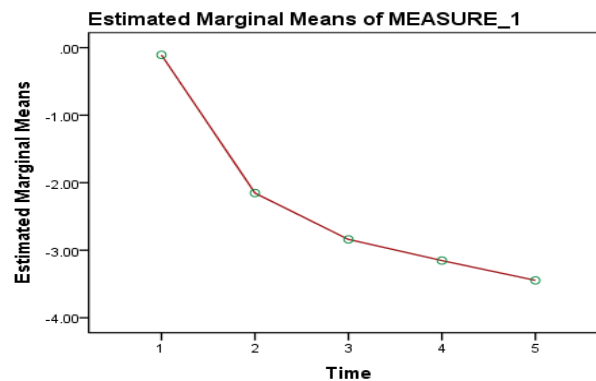


Fig. 6: Profile Plot of Mobility Periotest.

In the above plot the data point rounded is the mean mobility periotest for each time period. From the above test it can be concluded that the mean mobility periotest decreases from 1 month to one and a half years.

8. Discussion

Hybrid implant is a combination of subperiosteal and endosteal implants.

Although there are evidences of implant placements even in the prehistoric times, according to literature reviews about surgically placed implants, the first implant system was of subperiosteal type proposed by Dahl^{2(p430)} and later on placed by Dr. Aaron^{3,4}. It consisted of a metal frame work placed underneath the soft tissue above the alveolus with an abutment emerging from the surface to carry denture. This system has laid foundation to implant dentistry in early 1950s. Afterwards so many people modified the implant design and techniques of placement of superior steal implants and evaluated the drawbacks and various rectifications were given for the same., the latest being the use of hydroxyapatite coating of the implants⁵ and ct guided techniques⁶ of subpeioteal implant placement⁷. Many authors had reported the success of subperiosteal implants more than 80%^{8,9,10,11,12,13,14}. The common drawbacks of the subperiosteal implant as reported by literature are crude impression techniques, failure of adaptation of the plate to the alveolar bone surface, long operative time, multiple interventions, need for general anesthesia setup and post operatively infection, mobility, plate exposure etc.

The introduction of endosseous implant by Branemark^{15,16} and the concept of osseointegration in titanium endosseous implant almost faded away the use of superosteal implant. The concept of osseointegration and the biocompatibility of titanium are well proven according to literature review^{16,17,18,19}. The problem which arises in case of maxillary posterior edentulous areas for endosseous implants is the need for adequate vertical and bucco-palatal width of the alveolar bone to which the implant is placed. In posterior edentulous maxilla there often will be reduced bone height and width due to the pneumatization of maxillary sinus which necessitate the need for bone augmentation either intrasinus or extra sinus. According to Cawood et al²⁰ in patients with bone volume less than 10mm in the vertical aspect and 4 mm in the horizontal aspect class V to class VI the prognosis for conventional treatment with osseointegrated implants has been considered poor. Various methods for sinus augmentation, techniques to avoid the maxillary sinus and to increase the bone height of posterior maxilla are available in literature²¹⁻³³. All these techniques are technique sensitive, need expensive equipment, more operating time and expensive for the patient. Also the need for sinus augmentation and the quality of newly formed bone after augmentation are debatable³⁴⁻⁴⁰. The blade implants⁴¹⁻⁴³ which are told to compensate for the reduced width of the edentulous sites-knife edges are also debatable.

Hybrid implant is designed to overcome certain limitations of the current implant system. The plate of the implant can be well adapted to the alveolar bone avoiding the lack of proper adaptation in subperiosteal implant. The implant is anchored to the alveolar bone with titanium screws with very well form the endosseous component of the implant system. Even though the screw tips go into the maxillary sinus, literature reviews^{34,44} and our own clinical experience with hybrid implant system has proven to be with least complications and are well tolerated by the patients. Intraoperatively only minimum structures will be encountered as the plane of surgery is subperiosteal. Hydroxyapatite coating of the implant permit new bone formation over the implant adding more strength to the implant along with osseointegration of the titanium. In our evaluation there was a healthy gingival cuff around the abutment of all evaluated hybrid implant. The post operative swelling was also not more than with a minor oral surgery. The pain was well tolerated by all the patients with routine analgesics postoperatively one week. The implant was free of any complication during our evaluation period of six months. The evaluation of mobility with PERIOTEST⁴⁵⁻⁴⁷ also found to sufficient to prove the stability of the implant system. The stability of the implant seemed to be increasing over the months.

9. Conclusion

Hybrid implant system is an effective system for the rehabilitation of posterior maxillary edentulous spaces with inadequate bone for endosseous implant placement and also cost effective and patient friendly. According to our study it proves to be a safer alternative for sinus lift and bone grafting. Further long term studies and multicenter studies and modifications in design are needed for a more confirmatory efficacy about the hybrid implant system.

10. Acknowledgments and disclosure statements

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