Periodontitis and peri-implantitis: The common link between them

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Introduction: Gone is the era of removable partial dentures for edentulous ridges and currently the focus is on implant supported superstructures for oral rehabilitation. Implants have shifted from being a complex and expensive option to simple and feasible choice. However implants are not entirely devoid of complications. Some percentage of implants may not sustain over prolonged periods of time due to several factors. Peri-implantitis is one such factor leading to late failure of implants.

Clinical Significance: Periodontitis being a multi-factorial disease is one of the leading causes of tooth loss all over the globe. After loss of teeth either partially or completely, the question arises about whether the implants which replace the missing teeth also will face the same fate and have peri-implantitis. Thus it is clinically relevant to examine the relationship between periodontitis and peri-implantitis.

Summary & Conclusion: Evidence in the form of studies is conflicting, making it difficult to arrive at a definitive conclusion. There are insufficient long term studies with proper controls. Some evidence points to a history of severe chronic generalized periodontitis and aggressive periodontitis having a role in future peri-implantitis. Contrarily few studies show a successful survival of implants in subjects who have lost teeth due to periodontitis previously provided they are on a regular maintenance regimen.

Biography
Rashmi Paramashivaiah has completed her under-graduation from M.R. Ambedkar Dental College, Bangalore (2001) and Post-graduation from The Oxford Dental College, Bangalore (2004). She has been actively involved as a Principal Investigator in a major clinical trial conducted by Semlar Research. Being not just a regular attendee at national and international Conferences, she has also presented several scientific papers at these gatherings. She has been awarded a prize for her paper on peri-implantitis at ISOI, Bangalore in 2012. She has been a guest speaker for SLAAD (Colombo), Colgate and her institution on more than one occasion. Her literary skills have got recognition in the form of publications in varied journals. She is continuing her career by acting as a guide and co-guide to the post-graduate candidates at the present teaching institute.

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