



PERIO POINTERS

Implants

January 2008

Where do I find implant cases?

- Missing Teeth
- Removable Prosthetic Cases
- Nonrestorable teeth
- Fractures
- Trauma
- Internal or External Resorbion
- Deciduous Teeth
- Endodontic Failures
- Periodontic Failures

Do not prejudice the patient. Give implants as an option if you feel it is an option. Let the patient determine if it is a good value. Do evaluate the site in terms of bone volume. Is there enough height and width of bone (8mmX6mm) for an implant or will a ridge augmentation be needed. That does increase time and cost.



Action always generates inspiration. Inspiration seldom generates action.

Newsletter Spotlight

We plan on doing a series of newsletters on implants. Rational for implants, complications of implants, immediate implants, overdentures with locators, single teeth, multiple teeth and large cases



It is my philosophy that implants are not better than natural teeth. I will do all I can to retain the natural tooth rather than doing an implant. The major reason for this is the lack of a periodontal ligament. We will discuss this in the future, particularly in regard to immediate implants in the anterior. There are other caveats regarding implants particularly related to occlusion. Also, what happens if there is a failure. It is OK if they would just fall out, but that is not the case if they had initially integrated. They have a place in dentistry, but it is not anytime, anyplace, or anywhere. Implants are just one more tool in our armamentarium of treating the patient. Every situation must be evaluated on its own merits.