## A PROSPECTIVE EVALUATION OF OUTCOMES OF TWO TAPERED IMPLANT SYSTEMS

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The purpose of this prospective clinical study was to evaluate survival rate (SVR - i.e. fixtures still in place at the end of the observation period) and success rate (SCR - i.e. bone resorption around the implant neck) of two tapered implant systems. Both systems were equipped with a tapered connection, one requiring bone-level (BL) placement, while the other required soft-tissue-level (STL) placement. In the period between January 1996 and October 2011, 133 fixtures were inserted, 90 in females and 43 in males, with a mean age of  $60\pm11$  years. The mean post-surgical follow-up was  $64\pm38$  months. Several clinical parameters were evaluated as potential outcome conditioners. An SPSS program was used for statistical analysis and a Cox analysis was performed. The SVR was 100% since no fixtures were lost. SCR, expressed through the mean marginal bone loss, was 88%. No significant differences were found, for most of the variables investigated with the exception of bone grafting and implant type: STL implants showed a better clinical outcome than BL implants when bone grafting was performed simultaneously with implant placement. Tapered implants are reliable devices for oral rehabilitation of jaws.