Antidepressant use could increase implant failure risk

New research has linked antidepressants to dental implant failure. The pilot study conducted at the University of Buffalo found that antidepressants, one of the most prescribed drugs in the US to treat anxiety, pain and other disorders, could affect the regulation of bone metabolism, a crucial factor for the healing process and are of concern for dentists and patients who hold off dental implant procedures. The study found that antidepressants could increase the odds of implant failure. The research was published in the Journal of Oral Rehabilitation.

Fundamental misconceptions about dental implants

Investigating patients’ knowledge and perceptions regarding implant therapy, a Chinese study has found that an alarming number of participants had inaccurate and unrealistic expectations about dental implants. The study determined that only 18% felt confident about the information they had about the treatment. In the study, the researchers investigated preoperative information levels, perceptions and expectations regarding implant therapy via a questionnaire. Responses from 277 patients were obtained during 2014 and 2015 in three different locations in China (Hong Kong, Sichuan and Jiangsu).

The analyses established that about one-third of the participants had mistaken assumptions about dental implants. According to the researchers, common misconceptions were that dental implants require less care than natural dentition, implant treatment is appropriate for all patients with missing teeth, dental implants last longer than natural dentition, and there are no risks or complications with implant treatment.

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Straußmann, Nobel Biocare, DENTSPLY take advantage of growing dental implant demand in Europe

UK dental implant fixture market shows highest level of growth

According to a new series of reports on the European dental implant market, final abutments and computer guided surgery market over the past five years, the dental implant fixture market in Europe has experienced higher demand due to the recovering economy. Patients who held off dental implant procedures during the economic recession are now generating demand within the market. In countries such as Spain, the effect was lagging and therefore demand for dental implants has been substantial in more recent years. The dental implant fixture market in the UK has demonstrated the highest level of growth relative to the other countries in the region due to economic recovery and low market penetration.

Market penetration levels for dental implants vary significantly across the European market. Countries such as Italy, Spain, Switzerland, Germany, Benelux and Scandinavia represent more highly penetrated dental implant markets. On the other hand, France and the UK are far less penetrated and bear a greater pool of potential dental implant patients. It is expected that the French market for dental implants will begin to demonstrate more significant growth throughout the forecast period.

"The European market is demonstrating a shift towards price-cutting discounts and value implant options," explains Dr Kamran Zamanian, CEO of Dentsply. "This, in turn, has largely depressed prices and handicapped the overall market value growth. The growing prevalence and popularity of discounted products have therefore led to premium implant companies levying larger discounts on their products." Governments in Sweden, the Netherlands, Germany and Switzerland offer some reimbursement for dental implant procedures. However, even with reimbursement, costs associated with implant procedures tend to be higher than alternative treatments. Partially as a result of these policies, Sweden and Switzerland have some of the highest per capita implant rates in the world. Additionally, the Netherlands has experienced incredibly rapid dental implant market growth since the introduction of its reimbursement policy in 2005. Most private health and dental insurance policies do not cover dental implants, but a few high-end policies do. However, only a small percentage of the population in Europe is covered by such policies.

The dental implant market is not a commodity market. Large, established companies have built up strong brand recognition and a certain degree of customer loyalty. This, combined with the fact that the cost of the implant is only a small part of the cost of the procedure, allows established companies to price their products at a premium relative to smaller companies who do not have the same level of brand recognition. Straußmann holds the leading position in the dental implant market in Germany, Spain, Benelux, Austria and Switzerland. Straußmann benefits from a relatively stable customer base, even in regions like Germany, where a high level of competitive pressure exists from local value and discount implant companies. In Germany for example, the largest contributing factor to growth in recent years has been the company’s campaign which offered a free upgrade from titanium implants to the new higher strength Roxolid material.

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Prominent implantologist receives second P-I Brånemark Award

Dr Tiziano Testori honoured at 12th International Symposium on Periodontics and Restorative Dentistry in Boston

Dr Tiziano Testori received the second P-I Brånemark Award this summer. He was presented with the second award on the evening of the 12th International Symposium on Periodontics and Restorative Dentistry in Boston during the 12th International Symposium on Periodontics and Restorative Dentistry. Speaking at the event, Ferber remembered their relationship was of high mutual respect and friendship. This award is intended not only to honour a pioneer of implantology, but to promote ideals of fairness and integrity. “This award should serve as a permanent reminder of his sense of innovation, his dedication to education and his overriding concern for the welfare of humanity,” Ferber said. “Per-Ingvar was unique in many respects. He was concerned about developing products that serve the poor. That was far more important to him than any commercial interest. His scientific research and implants have helped millions of people globally.”

Presenters and recipients of the Award for Lifetime Achievement in Dentistry granted in honor of the late Prof. Per-Ingvar Brånemark:

*From left to right: Presenters and recipients of the Award for Lifetime Achievement in Dentistry granted in honor of the late Prof. Per-Ingvar Brånemark: Mark Ferber, Founder of Channel3; Dr. Myron Nevins, recipient of the 2015 award; Dr. Tiziano Testori, recipient of the 2016 award; and Dr. Robert Gottlander of the award selection committee. (Photograph: Channel3)*

**Comments on the award, member of the award selection committee Dr Robert Gottlander:**

“I had the honour of working with Per-Ingvar during my time at Nobel Biocare. Our relationship was of high mutual respect and friendship. This award is intended not only to honour a pioneer in implant technology, but to promote the ideals of fairness and integrity. We consult closely with Barbro Brånemark and opinion leaders in the field of implantology to seek out leading dentists who have devoted their life to advancing the Brånemark dental implant system.”

This year, Testori received the P-I Brånemark Award from Channel3. He is past President of the Italian Society of Oral Surgery and Implantology, an active member of the European Board of Oral Surgery, Academy of Osseointegration, American Academy of Periodontology, and American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons. As an established author of over 200 scientific articles, Testori is a member of the editorial board of the International Journal of Oral and Maxillofacial Implants. He is also head of the implant dentistry and oral rehabilitation section at the University of Milan dental school in Italy. He maintains a leading private practice limited to implant dentistry and oral surgery in Como, Italy.

The award ceremony took place at a dinner held in honour of Testori in Boston during the 12th International Symposium on Periodontics and Restorative Dentistry. Speaking on the evening, Ferber remembered the ideals of fairness and integrity: “This award should serve as a permanent reminder of his sense of innovation, his dedication to education and his overriding concern for the welfare of humanity. Per-Ingvar was unique in many respects. He was concerned about developing products that serve the poor. That was far more important to him than any commercial interest. His scientific research and implants have helped millions of people globally.”

**ADI biennial congress**

International face transplant expert joins speakers list

**at upcoming implant event in London**

*Dr Daniel Alam*

Members of the Association of Dental Implantology will head to the ExCel, London, exhibition and convention centre in March next year when the biennial team congress of the professional body is held from the 2nd to the 4th in the British capital. Under the theme of Dental implantology: A global perspective—Inspiration from around the world, the event will offer a varied and inspirational learning experience for all members of the dental team, as well as for dentists with no previous experience in implantology. Nottingham implantologist Colin Cambell will present the introduction to Dental Implantology Programme which he said will show beginners the benefits of a long-term training strategy for the whole dental team. “Sharing and promoting training throughout the practice leads to better motivation, higher quality staff, better retention of staff and generally better engagement in the whole process,” he commented on his lecture.

Further sessions delivered by some of the biggest names and most highly respected clinicians in the field including Dr Daniel Alam, one of the world’s leading experts on face transplantation, will further help GDPs, specialists, dental technicians and all other team members to develop their knowledge and understanding of implantology and remain up-to-date with the very latest in the field.

*Presenter Dr Martyn Ansell from Oxfordshire said: “I will discuss some new ideas for treatment planning, as well as the importance of communication. Treatment planning is ultimately a jigsaw and only with all the pieces can professionals hope to achieve successful results.”*

Accompanying the congress programme will be an extensive trade exhibition hosted by industry leading implant product companies, each demonstrating the cutting-edge innovations they bring to the market. At a glittering Congress Dinner on 3 March, delegates will furthermore have the chance to relax, enjoy an evening of fantastic entertainment and socialise with their peers.

Professionals interested in attending the event can find more information about the programme and how to register at www.adi.org.uk/congress 2017.