

Bundesverband der implantologisch tätigen Zahnärzte in Europa

European Association of Dental Implantologists

Press Release

New EuCC Guide 2016: Update on short, angulated and diameter-reduced implants

Consensus Paper of the 11th European Consensus Conference (EuCC) just been released 5 April 2016

Based on a working paper of the University of Cologne, the 11th European Consensus Conference (EuCC) under the auspices of BDIZ EDI gives an update on short, angulated and diameter-reduced implants. The resulting guideline covers advantages and limits of above implants and is replacing the 2011 guideline on the same topic. The EuCC includes clinical practitioners and academic researchers who bring special knowledge or experience to the discussion.

The purpose of this guideline is to offer recommendations for clinicians engaging in implant dentistry, enabling them to correctly assess potential indications (and any limitations thereof) for short, angulated and diameter-reduced implants.

The EuCC agreed upon the following: Implants are usually referred to as short if their designed intrabony length measures ≤ 8 mm with diameters $\geq 3,75$ mm. "Ultra-short" implants are considered to be those with lengths less than 6 mm. Diameter-reduced implants can be defined as those with intraosseous diameters below 3,5 mm for placement in sites with reduced alveolar ridge bone width. Implants with diameters less than 2,7 mm are referred to as mini-implants. Additionally, the EuCC indicates that mini-implants have an increased risk of implant loss. Short mini-implants should be avoided.

The recommendations of the EuCC: Provided the specific treatment parameters are observed, the use of short, angulated or diameter-reduced implants in sites with reduced bone volume can be a reliable treatment option, given the risks associated with the use of standard-dimension implants in combination with augmentation procedures. The implant surgeon and the restorative dentist must have appropriate training to choose the best possible therapy for each patient.

In an interview* the Chairman of the European Consensus Conference 2016, Dr Jörg Neugebauer, Landsberg/Germany, made it very clear, that anyone who wishes to use short and ultrashort implants must realize that their anchoring mechanisms are different from those of the previously used "pure" screw-type implants — both in terms of prosthetics and in terms of the bone. The President of the European Association of Dental Implantologists (BDIZ EDI), Christian Berger, supported in the same interview the EuCC's demand for appropriate training: "It would be wrong to assume that short, angulated or diameter-reduced implants can be used to cover up one's own shortcomings in surgical technique. Those implants were not developed for operators who have not (yet) mastered the external sinus lift and bone augmentation!"

The printed version of the guideline is available on request: office-munich@bdizedi.org. Price: Euro 2,50 (incl. VAT, plus postage). Members of BDIZ EDI get the guideline free of charge on request. Both guideline and interview may also be obtained from the EDI Journal, issue 1/2016.

*Interview: "Short implants are not for beginners", EDI Journal, issue 1/2016

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