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The Socket Shield Technique – A Review

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Abstract

Tooth extraction leads to resorption and remodeling of the alveolar ridge. Bone alteration especially is important for aesthetic outcomes. Various techniques are performed in the extraction socket that helps to maintain alveolar ridge contour. Ridge preservation techniques partly compensate, but bone alteration cannot be avoided. Root submerged and socket shield techniques are solutions in the aesthetic zone. Root submergence technique was created to maintain the alveolar ridge, it was performed with endodontically treated or vital roots. The socket shield technique is also known as a partial extraction therapy or root membrane technique. This technique includes leaving the buccal part of the root during the implant placement. Retained root fragment prevents the buccal bone resorption because healthy periodontal tissues ensure that buccal bone gets sufficient blood supply. This helps to minimize crestal bone contour changes following tooth extraction and immediate implantation. The aim of this article is to review the socket shield technique.