

# *Editorial*

## *Implants ~ A mad race or an extraordinary treatment modality*

Dental Implants have had a great success over the past decades following the landmark research and development of Osseointegrated implants by Branemark et al. Many reports have documented excellent long term success of implant retained prostheses for edentulous and partially edentulous patients. The ultimate goal of dental implant therapy is to satisfy the patients' desire for replacement of missing teeth in an aesthetic, functional manner. It can be definitively stated that implants by far have established themselves as an outstanding and excellent treatment modality so much so that dental practitioners throughout the length and breadth of the nation have taken it upon themselves to propagate Implantology.



New technology is always expensive and it mesmerizes both the patient and the professional. Being highly remunerative, most professionals believe it to be the panacea for all dental ailments. What majority, however, forget is that like any procedure, Implantology too is associated with complications, both surgical and otherwise. Incessant and indiscriminate placement of implants in salvageable teeth is condemnable and should be discouraged.

The glamour associated with Implantology has time and again induced dental professionals to bypass the preservation of natural tooth by more conservative treatment modalities. This very act in years to come might have to be paid for, when medico legal cases associated with unethical implant placement begin to pour in.

Beyond doubt, Implant is an exceptional treatment modality and a boon for the patient. Nevertheless it would be advisable to be prudent, unbiased and judicious when selecting cases, with utmost respect to nature, for what is natural, should be preserved.

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