Introduction
Thank you for participating in the advanced periodontal and implant study club. This second case illustrates how I treated a successful implant procedure that developed postoperative complications. I hope you find it inspiring and stimulates dialog among us. Please contact me if you would like to submit your own case for study.

All the best,

Victor Sternberg, D.M.D., PC5

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Case 2: Successful Implant and Postoperative Complications

This is a case study for a patient who underwent a successful implant procedure in which postoperative complications developed due to a loose abutment screw causing bone loss. Ultimately treating the implant and the abutment successfully resulted in repair and regeneration of bone. The patient first appeared in July 2009. He had a molar that was failing for several reasons. The tooth was extracted and an immediate implant placed into the bifurcation.

A molar that was failing  Implant placed into the bifurcation


Subsequently, the patient developed bone loss due to a loose abutment.
This picture was taken on 7/19/2010 when the patient appeared with the loose abutment. The crown had been removed and you can see the bone loss on this film.

The peri implantitis was treated, in his case, non-surgically.

You can see the almost complete repair and regeneration of bone with the Picture taken 4/30/2012.

Peri implantitis, due to either cement that is left on the crown or a loose abutment screw, can be dealt with but must be diagnosed early in order to prevent significant bone loss around implants.

The move toward screw-retained restorations has its value in that you do not have the problem with cement and it is easier to retrieve and retighten. More and more clinicians are using screw-retained restorations when possible.

Thanks for reading! Contact me to share one of your stories!

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