Dr. John Tsourounakakis

Understanding biology in implant dentistry: Mitigating risk through soft tissue management

Winnipeg periodontist Dr. John M. Tsourounakis graduated from Aristotle University in Greece with the degree of Doctor of Dental Surgery, in 2008. After moving to the United States, he obtained his Certificate in Periodontics from Louisiana State University, School of Dentistry in New Orleans, in 2012 along with a Master’s degree in Health Care Management from the University of New Orleans, College of Business. In 2013 he completed a postgraduate Fellowship with a special focus on full mouth reconstruction with implant supported restorations, at Louisiana State University. Dr. Tsourounakis has published several scientific papers, in peer-reviewed journals, and is a co-author of the book “Peri-implant complications: A clinical guide to diagnosis and treatment”. Currently, he practices at the Southwest Specialty Group, a multi-disciplinary specialty practice in Winnipeg, Manitoba. Dr. Tsourounakis is also a clinical instructor at the Graduate Periodontics clinic, at the University of Manitoba, College of Dentistry. His areas of clinical interest include tissue engineering, minimally invasive periodontal and implant surgery, and full mouth rehabilitation. Dr. Tsourounakis is a Diplomate of the American Board of Periodontology and a Fellow of the Royal College of Dentists of Canada.
Healthy peri-implant tissues are of paramount importance for the long term success of dental implants. Although this is most frequently thought as a determinant of esthetics, around dental implants, its importance on the maintenance of peri-implant tissue health should not be overlooked. Obtaining the proper quantity and quality of soft tissues around dental implants will ensure long term stability, and decrease the risk for biological complications.

This presentation will discuss the effect of peri-implant soft tissues on the maintenance of dental implant health, as well as the similarities and differences of periodontal and peri-implant tissues. Diagnostic indices and the classification of soft tissue deficiencies around dental implants, will be reviewed. This lecture will also highlight the appropriate interventions to augment peri-implant soft tissues in different clinical scenarios, aiming to reduce the risk for biological complications.

After this presentation, the attendees will be able to:

- Understand diagnosis and classification of peri-implant tissue deficiencies, as well as the differences between periodontal and peri-implant tissues
- Identify the need for pre-prosthetic soft tissue augmentation and the need for peri-implant soft tissue enhancement
- Realize the importance of peri-implant soft tissue on the maintenance of peri-implant tissue health and soft tissue esthetics