Dental implants are 98 percent successful and cause little or no bone loss, according to new research published in the Journal of Oral Implantology.

Authors Zeev Ormianer, DMD, and Ady Palty, DMD, reviewed 60 charts of patients who received a total of 267 implants in two private dental practices in Israel and Germany. They found that 98.5 percent of the implants survived and there was no discernable bone loss in 88 percent of the implant sites. The mean follow-up time was 7.5 years.

The study goal was to determine the level of bone loss over time at the implant sites in the jaw. A key clinical issue was not whether bone loss would occur, but how much bone loss should be considered normal and acceptable.

Commenting on the findings, Jamie Lozada, DDS, president of the American Academy of Implant Dentistry (AAID), said the study adds to a growing body of compelling clinical evidence supporting dental implants as the most successful method for replacing missing or compromised teeth.

“With an estimated two of three Americans having at least one missing tooth, implants are becoming the preferred tooth-replacement option. Implant surgery is one of the safest, most precise and predictable procedures in dentistry,” Lozada said.

AAID is based in Chicago and has more than 3,500 members. It is the first organization dedicated to maintaining the highest standards of implant dentistry by supporting research and education to advance comprehensive implant knowledge.


By Roger P. Levin

**Introduction**

For too long, dental hygiene has been underutilized as a major practice growth opportunity. In the current economy, most practices are searching for ways to increase production. Look no further than your hygiene department!

**Where to begin**

The growth in dental hygiene must begin with diagnosis. Not only is it clinically responsible to diagnose every patient completely for periodontal and restorative issues, but it is also the first step in building a true hygiene program. Not only is it clinically responsible to diagnose every patient completely for periodontal and restorative issues, but it is also the first step in building a true hygiene program. In the approximate 100 seminars I present each year to dentists and dental organizations, I stress the importance of probing and recording pocket depths for every patient. Unfortunately, too many practices do not regularly probe and record pocket depths for every patient.