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**The Use of Digitaltechnology in Implant Dentistry among General Practitioner - A Questionnaire Based Survey**

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**ABSTRACT**

**Statement of problem:**

There are multiple treatment options to restore edentulous region. But with the evolution of digital technology in implant dentistry major advantages of this technology in terms of better precision and accurate positioning of implant placement with the use of surgical guided stent fabrication and it saves patient time. So, the purpose of this survey-based study was to know the preferences of the general dental practitioner for restoring the missing teeth with the placement of dental implant.

**Purpose:** To integrate information about use of digital technology in implant dentistry among general practitioner.


**Material and method:** In this study, A literature review web- based study was conducted amongst general dental practitioners. The survey tool was a structured,

self-administered, multiple choice questionnaire which comprised of 10 questions in total. Total 150 survey forms were sent out of which 136 dentists responded to the questionnaire sent via Google form within the given time frame. Sample size calculation was done by Denta-status team using G\*power 3.1.9.7 software.

**Results:** Total 136 respondents participated in the survey amongst them 76.6% preferred digital method over conventional method. 62.8% preferred conventional multislice computed tomography over cone beam computed tomography. 41.2% preferred cone beam computed tomography over intra oral scanner, laser scanning, holographic and stereophotogrammetry. 78.1% preferred intra oral scanner over extra oral scanner. 63.2% preferred triple scan technique over double scan technique. 83.7% preferred stent guided implant placement over conventional method. 61.3% preferred combination of tooth and tissue supported guide system over tooth and tissue supported. 75.9% preferred digital intra oral scanner for impression over conventional impression. 57.7% preferred dull, smooth and opaque surface over shiny, rough or translucent. 65% preferred combination of conventional and digital for prosthesis fabrication over conventional and digital.

**Conclusion:** within the limitation of the study, the data indicates that general dental practitioners preferred digital technology over conventional. But, cost is a major factor for the use of digital technology. Despite the success of digital technology, it does not entirely depend on technology. The clinicians' skill in obtaining and processing the data plays a vital role.

**Clinical implication:** The use of digital technology puts the various advantages over the conventional technology and use of various scanning technology are less time consuming and accuracy are better with them. Guide system is better in terms of reliability and precision for implant placement.

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