Maxillary Sinus Augmentation by Autogenous Block Graft

A- Case Report

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Abstract: Tooth morbidity and tooth mortality are one of the most prevalent disease condition worldwide. When a tooth is lost, whether through dental decay, periodontal disease or dental trauma, the alveolar process begins to remodel. Continuous bone remodeling, absence of stimulation, loss of bone height, and density leads to an increase in antral pneumatization, leading to reduction in residual vertical bone height thus making standard implant placement difficult. To adapt, circumvent, and treat this limitation; maxillary sinus floor elevation is often done and has become an important preplacement procedure in dental implant treatment planning. In this article, we present a unique case of maxillary sinus augmentation of right posterior maxilla using a combination of autogenous chin block graft, and allograft with simultaneous placement of endosseous implants.

Keywords: autograft, allograft, maxillary sinus augmentation

1. Introduction

Maxillary sinus floor augmentation (also termed sinus lift, sinus graft, sinus augmentation or sinus procedure) is a surgical procedure which aims to increase the amount of bone in the posterior maxilla including premolar, and molar teeth, the indications of this modality include absence of significant amount of bone in the posterior maxilla, those who have missing teeth due to genetics or birth defect, patients with maxillary vertical bone height < 10mm, systemically healthy, non diabetic and non smokers with good condition of remaining dentition.[1,2] The contra-indications include presence of tumours, maxillary sinus infections, severe chronic sinussitis, deformity of sinus from previous surgery, severe allergic rhinitis, chronic use of topical steroids and radiation therapy. Maxillary sinus elevation is carried out by two approaches - direct maxillary sinus elevation and indirect maxillary sinus elevation. Few of the techniques involve simple, minimal elevation of Schneiderian membrane, while others include placement of various types of grafts. Maxillary sinus floor augmentation procedure was first performed by Oscar Hilt Tatum Jr. in 1974 and was originally used as a preprosthetic surgical procedure for patients with large maxillary tuberosity and pneumatized sinususes, in order to reduce the size of maxillary tuberosity without creating an oral-antral defect, bone was grafted into the sinus cavity.[2]. Boyne and James were the first to describe the use maxillary sinus bone grafting procedure.[3]. The maxillary sinus can be approached through four different anatomic locations 1. superior lateral wall or Caldwell-Luc opening located just anterior to zygomatic arch 2. the middle lateral wall opening located midway between the alveolar ridge and the zygomatic arch 3. Inferior lateral wall opening located at the level of the alveolar ridge and 4. Crestal approach through osteotomes. Among these the most common approach is through the lateral wall. Indirect sinus elevation is done when the remaining alveolar bone height is between 7-10mm by osteotome to compress bone internally from the alveolar crest upward against the floor leading to an inward fracture, with the schneiderian membrane being intact, an average increases in bone height would be between 2 to 7mm. Pre-surgical evaluation of the maxillary sinus primary should be accomplished by radiographs including OPG to evaluate any pathology, masses or presence of septa. The decision of simultaneous implant placement depends upon the quality and quantity of the existing native bone.[3,4]

Case Presentation

A 40-year-old female systemically healthy patient moderately built and moderately nourished reported to the oral implantology unit of College of dentistry Jazan university Jazan, Saudi Arabia with a chief complaint of missing maxillary right posterior teeth and desired to replace it through implants. Patient was cooperative and did not have any relevant medical history, the entire treatment plan was explained to the patient and a consent form was signed. Clinical and radiographic examination revealed limited vertical alveolar ridge height in relation to 16, 17, 18. Direct maxillary sinus lifting was done by lateral approach with autogogeneous symphysisal bone grafting followed by implant placements, suture removal was done after one week. Patient was...
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recalled for check up at monthly intervals followed by abutment placement and final prosthesis at the end of six months.

**Investigations**

Pre-surgical evaluation of the maxillary sinus was primary accomplished by OPG to rule out any pathology, masses or presence of septa and to estimate the residual vertical ridge height and width "Fig1". Blood investigation was also done.

**Treatment Procedure**

The surgical procedure was carried out under local anaesthesia (2% mepivacaine with 1:100.000 epinephrine). Maxillary sinus floor augmentation via a lateral approach was performed according to Boyne & James(1980) technique.[3] The approach to the anterior wall of the maxillary sinus was made by a crestal incision between 15 and 16 and 17 followed by vertical-releasing incisions and the elevation of a mucoperiostial flap "Fig" 2. A bony window on the lateral wall of right maxillary sinus was established with a small diamond round bur under sterile saline irrigation "Fig" 3, taking care not to tear the Schneiderian’s membrane. The antral mucosa was elevated inferiorly, anteriorly and posteriorly together with the bony window until the desired elevation was reached "Fig4,5". Sinus floor augmentation was performed with autogenous chin block graft "Fig 6,7," followed by three simultaneous implant placements , (Vitane implants of size 3.6×10mm ) ,allograft namely cerabone granules of particle size 0.5-1mm was used to fill the defect ,collagen membrane cytoplast was placed to cover the lateral window "Fig 8 " Wound closure was done with –non resorbale synthetic 4-0 suture "Fig "9. Donor site was packed with cerabone granules."fig "10.Immediate post operative panorama was taken to check the implant directions "Fig11". Post surgical instructions were given along with 1g augmentin, 600mg brufen and mouthwash for a week. Sutures were removed after 7 days. Four months after ossteointegration of implants abutments were placed, followed by final prosthesis after 6 months.

**Figure1** pre-operative OPG showing the residual alveolar ridge height

**Figure 2** intra oral view showing the residual alveolar ridge after elevation of flap

**Figure 3** surgical approach to maxillary sinus depicting the lateral window
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removal of lateral window

Figure 4, 5, visible Schneiderian membrane

Procurement of autogenous block graft

Figure 9  block bone used to elevate the sinus membrane
Figure 10 implants placed simultaneously

Figure 11 allograft cerabone was used to fill the lateral window after implant placement

Figure 12 flaps approximated and sutures placed

Figure 13 donor site packed with bone allograft- cerabone
Figure 14 immediate post operative OPG

Figure 15 abutments placed after 4 months

Figure 16 final prosthetic procelin crowns placed

Outcome And Follow-Up

Sinus graft showed full integration during the follow-up period, the patient showed no change in sinus functions. Clinical evaluation showed a normal peri-implant probing depth and no signs of bleeding on probing. Implants were healed with cover screws exposed. The panoramic X-ray after implants placement showed the right implant axis and the stability of the bone graft. After soft-tissue healing, implants were loaded with cemented fixed single crowns supported by pre-formed titanium abutment "Fig"12. The patient was included in a recall program that provides a clinical control every 4 months and radiographic control every 6 months.
II. Discussion

A variety of surgical techniques have been developed to reconstruct the posterior maxilla when bone volume is insufficient. The surgical procedures to obtain bone augmentation are: Guided bone regeneration (GBR); 2) Onlay bone grafts; 3) Inlay grafts; 4) Bone splitting for ridge expansion (RE); 5) Distraction osteogenesis (DO); and 6) Revascularized flaps. Agalloo2008[4], Chiapassao M 2006[5],Vander mark el 2006[6] evaluated the implant success rates of augmentation procedures and survival rates of implants placed in the augmented sites. The implant survival rate was 95.5% for GBR, 90.4% for OVG, 94.7% for DO, and 83.8% for COG. Vander mark et.al 2011 [7] had conducted a study to compare the implant survival rates of le-fort 1 down grafting and conventional raising of sinus floor with inlay grafting and found no statistitical difference in implant survival rate between the two treatment approaches. In this article, we present a unique case of maxillary sinus lift augmentation of posterior maxilla using autogenous symphyseal block graft with simultaneous implant placement. The use of corticocancellous bone grafts for ridge augmentation in implant dentistry was first reported by Breine and Branemark,[8] Autograft is considered as the gold standard for bone transplantation[9] and various studies have shown efficacy for the same.[10,11,12,13] The advantages of corticocancellous block grafts over synthetic grafts are, enhanced revascularization of the cancellous portion, mechanical support and rigidity of the cortical portion, which ensures optimal ridge augmentation.[14,15] The healing of autogenous bone grafts has been described as “creeping substitution” where viable bone replaces the necrotic bone within the graft and is highly dependent on graft angiogenesis and revascularization.[17,18] Several studies have been documented by Kent and Block et.al 1989[19,20], Van Steen Berghe 1997[21] who have conducted retrospective studies on maxillary sinus augmentation using autografts and immediate implant placement which were followed for a period of 2 years and had proved a implant success of 100%. [22] Keestra JA1, et.al 2016 reviewed the different techniques used to augment vertical bone height over a long period of time based on the available data in the current existing studies with a follow-up period of at least 4 to 5 years, they summarized that the onlay technique, alveolar distraction, and vertical guided bone regeneration are stable for at least 4 to 5 years.[23]

III. Conclusion

The maxillary sinus augmentation procedure has been well documented. The alveolar ridge augmentation procedures are more technique-sensitive. More in-depth, long-term, multicenter studies are required to provide further insight into augmentation procedures to support dental implant survival. Combination of autogenous graft, and allograft for horizontal and vertical augmentation with simultaneous placement of implants resulted in better functional and esthetic restorations.

References
