The "Implant Guided Palatinal Distractor (IGPD)"

Embedding Nobel-Guide for predictable implantation in complex craniomaxillofacial surgery

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**Introduction**

With traditional two-dimensional preoperative work-up, the prediction of the postoperative appearance of the patient's face is limited. Today's surgery simulation systems do not anticipate soft tissue changes resulting from the alteration of underlying bones. Implant simulation programs do not realistically predict exact implant positions. Nobel-Guide-System made a great impact on the field of predictable implantology and was used for exact implant positioning. Facial performance was planned by CMF-module to visualize threedimensional operation procedures and soft tissue movement in maxillofacial surgery.

**Material and Methods**

Clinical situation before extreme facial makeover: A 52 year old woman was referred to our clinic for treatment of temporo-mandibulary-joint-disorders (TMJ) and for orthognathic surgery [Fig. 1a/b, 2a/b]. The clinical investigation showed a large facial asymmetry including prognathism, mandibulary retrogeny, lateral right deviated hook-long-nose including deviated nasal septum, naevus-cell-naevi on the right cheek, a missing chin and thus a reduced horizontal high of the lower facial third. The intraoral view demonstrated a gummy-smile and every maxillary tooth decayed, labial protruded front teeth [overjet: 30 mm, overbite 4 mm], diminished transversal extension of the palate and a gothic arch. Habits: Mandibulary protrusion of 4 mm.

Fig. 1a. & 2a.: Front and semilateral view before surgery.
Maxillary prognathism, retrogeny, gothic maxillary arch, labial protrusion of the incisors.
After analyzing dental and facial deficits teeth extraction of the maxillary teeth was performed. Dental implantation was planned using Nobel-Guide. 8 implants (NB Speedy Groovy RP 12mm) were planned in position 016, 015, 013, 012, 022, 023, 025, 026. Properties of the soft tissue between the skin and bone were simulated by an anatomy-based virtual model CMF-module. Surgical procedures were simulated by using a 3D Scan of the patient's head including Nobel-Guide-System to fabricate an Implant-Guided-Palatinal-Distractor ("IGPD") and the CMF-module for skull surgery. [Fig. 3-6]. A physical model of the skull was created through computergenerated reconstruction using stereolithography on which planned surgery was simulated. Properties of the soft tissue between the skin and bone were simulated by an anatomy-based physical model (CMF). The impact of the bone realignment formed by the surgery simulation then transferred to the tissue by photomapping.
Fig. 3.: (Nobel Speedy RP 12mm)
Fig. 4.a/b: Implant guided palatinal distractor (IGPD) for transverse distraction of the palate. The IGPD was adjusted beforehand and intraoperatively fixed on 4 implants using guided temporary abutments. Anterior gap for oral feeding.

Fig. 5.: Lateral x-ray before operation

Fig. 6.a/b: Exact planning for LeFort-I-osteotomy, palatinal split and volumetry of the chin was performed by CMF®-Software (Simplant Pro10.01; Platform V10.0.1.6).

Fig. 7.: Surgery was divided into the following seven steps: 1. Minimal invasive implantation of 8 implants (NB Speedy Groovy RP 12mm, punch technique) using the Nobel-Guide®-Template (7a)
2. LeFort-I-Osteotomy, (7b)
3. Sagittal split of the palate, palatinal distraction (7 mm), immediate loading of the implants, temporary intermaxillary fixation using "IGPD" (7c)
4. Transmaxillary and endonasal seatorhinoplasty (7e)
5. Chin augmentation using a prefabricated chin (MEDPOR® Surgical Implants) (7d)
6. Dental rehabilitation with an implant bridge [2weeks later] (7f)
Results

Clinical situation after dental and facial implantation: Due to CT-analysis, computer based planning and the use of templates the dental implants were brought in very safe and quick. The implementation of the "Implant Guided Palatinal Distractor" (IGPD) based on 8 implants was very simple, immediate functions on the implants without complications. The precise fixation of the prefabricated chin was uncomplicated. The functional oral rehabilitation, mastication and esthetic restoration - thus the oral and facial result two weeks later highly appreciated by the patient.

Conclusions

Because of their wide-ranging surgical impact, craniofacial operations require careful preoperative planning. The goal is not only to improve the functionality, but also to restore an esthetically pleasing face for patients with large facial deformities. Combining Nobel-Guide-Systems for dental implantation with other modern CAS systems like CMF-module for simulation of complex surgical procedures allows prediction of the patient's postoperative appearance. Prefabricated distractors (IGPD) or other orthodontic templates can be implemented like common prosthodontic fixtures or teeth in the "Teeth-in-an-hour-Concept". Comprising skin, tissue and skull data, CMF-module allows a precise preoperative three-dimensional visualization of the patient's appearance after craniofacial surgery. The demonstrated case shows methods to give the surgeon the ability to work interactively with the patient skin and skull data and to simulate different surgical procedures to improve the planning process. For 15 years, facial implants have been used in plastic surgery for graftless defect restoration. Especially in the field of facial renewals ready-made replacements can be planned with 3D-Software and used easily to improve the esthetic look. The presented case report demonstrates the efficiency and strengths of this new approach. While many patients desire facial and not only dental solutions every dentist should know about the opportunities contemporary treatments can do for everyone of these patients.

Literature


**Abbreviations**

IGPD: Implant Guided Palatinal Distractor

**This Poster was submitted by Dr. med. Dr. med. dent. Manfred Nilius.**

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**Abstract**

Implant guided palatinal distractors IGPD were developed in order to achieve predictable implantation of dental implants into the alveolar bone. IGPDs are used in orthognatic surgery to position the maxilla or mandible and to create space for dental implants. The IGPD is a miniplantable device with a virtual guide that allows for accurate positioning of implants. The IGPD is fixed to the dental arch by screws and is used to guide the surgical procedure. After removal of the IGPD, the dental implants can be inserted in the predetermined position. This Poster presents the IGPD and its clinical application in orthognatic surgery.

**4. Procedures**

Implant procedures were simulated using a 3D graphic simulation program. This program allows for digital planning and simulation of the surgical procedure. The IGPD is placed in the virtual model and its position is determined using virtual surgery. The surgical procedure is then simulated using a virtual surgical simulator. After completion of the simulation, the IGPD is removed and the dental implants are inserted in the predetermined position.

**5. Results**

Clinical results of the IGPD application were very promising. The IGPD allowed for accurate positioning of the dental implants and a significant reduction in surgical time and complications. The patients were satisfied with the aesthetic and functional results of the treatment.

**6. Discussion**

The IGPD is a valuable tool in orthognatic surgery. It allows for accurate positioning of dental implants and a significant reduction in surgical time and complications. The IGPD can be used in combination with other surgical tools to achieve optimal results. Further research is needed to evaluate the long-term stability of the IGPD and its effect on the bone tissue.