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The blind crestal sinus lifting technique, where are we?

Samy Elian

Sohag University Hospitals, Egypt

Background: The simplicity of the crestal sinus lifting made all who perform the lifting, do it in a blind way without direct vision to the sinus lining. Many perforations may occur without being detected which may lead to failure of implants especially when associated with bone grafts.

Aim: The aim of the clinical study was to visualize the lining of the maxillary sinus from inside using the endoscope to evaluate the lifting procedures. Many unbelievable things were discovered during elevation. At the same time, if the endoscope is available as chair side equipment, it can be introduced from the same crestal osteotomy site of the implant to detect any minor perforation.

Results: Perforation may occur even if you are keen in the maneuver of the lifting especially in cases with thin Schneiderian membranes.

Conclusion: Crestal entrance of the endoscope to visualize the integrity of the sinus membrane is very efficient in detecting any minor perforation that might occur from crestal sinus lifting. Only thick membranes should be elevated using the crestal approach.

drsamiyazied@gmail.com