Comparison of marginal bone loss of flap versus flapless surgically placed dental implants in controlled type 2 diabetic patients

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This longitudinal clinical study was performed to compare the marginal bone loss of dental implants placed following conventional full thickness flap surgery and flapless surgical technique in controlled type 2 diabetic patients. 88 type 2 diabetic patients satisfying predefined inclusion and exclusion criteria were randomly divided into two groups based on surgical approach followed for dental implant placement i.e., Group I (Full thickness flap) and Group II (Flapless). Dental implants were placed followed by delayed loading (4 months) in both groups. Assessment of marginal bone loss was done with intraoral periapical radiographs with the help of computer software (DBSWIN viewer). Mesial and distal bone levels at baseline, after 6 months and 12 months of two groups were compared with Tukey test by using SPSS version 15.0 statistical analysis software. Tukey test revealed statistically similar mean mesial and distal bone level between the two groups after 6 months and after 12 months (p>0.05). Within limitations of the study, it was concluded that the level of marginal bone loss around the dental implants were comparable for both full thickness flap technique and the flapless technique.

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