Introduction

The function and esthetics of a prosthesis are important aspects of a successful implant prosthesis. The prosthesis should be harmonious with the neighboring teeth. To achieve successful implant prosthesis, preserving soft tissues, such as the marginal gingiva and interdental papilla, in addition to the shape and color of the prosthesis, is crucial.1,2 The loss of the interdental papilla can result in the formation of a “black triangle,” leading to esthetic defects, phonetic problems, and food impaction.3 Soft tissues are supported by bony substruc- ture. Therefore, efforts should be made to minimize the absorption of the alveolar bone and gingival recession for implantation on the esthetic zone.

The interdental or interimplant papilla can be influenced by the height of the interdental bone, the horizontal/vertical distance of the gingival embrasure, the position of the contact point, and the contour of the soft tissue.4 If the distance from the interproximal contact point to the crest of the interdental bone is ≤5 mm, the proximal gingival embrasure can be filled with the interimplant papilla.3 However, the gingival embrasure space between two adjacent implants is more difficult to be filled with the interimplant papilla than with the interdental papilla of natural teeth.3,5,6

Therefore, methods to preserve the interproximal tissue should be considered in treatment planning for adjacent implant placement. Strategic serial extraction, immediate implantation, and provisionalization are effective procedures to preserve both hard and soft tis-
This clinical report describes a case that required extraction and implant placement in both maxillary central incisors. For preserving the interdental bone and papilla, strategic serial extraction instead of the simultaneous extraction of adjacent teeth with immediate implantation and provisionalization was performed. The patient demonstrated a satisfactory result in terms of both esthetic and functional aspects.

**Case report**

A 58-year-old woman presented to the Chonbuk National University Hospital with both maxillary central incisors fractured (Fig. 1). Both central incisors were subjected to endodontic treatment and restored by metal ceramic restoration 30 years ago. A subgingival fracture of the crown accompanied with pain was observed in the left maxillary central incisor. As an equigingival fracture of the crown was observed, endodontic treatment was attempted for the restoration. However, because severe caries was observed without the verification of apical patency, extraction and implantation were decided.

In the right central incisor, a provisional post crown was fabricated and luted with temporary cement (Tempbond, Kerr Corp., Romulus, MI, USA). Immediate implantation of the left central incisor was planned initially because of pain. The left central incisor was atraumatically extracted using a periotome, and the implant (4.5 × 14 mm, Superline, Dentium Co., Seoul, South Korea) was immediately placed at the minimum distance of 2.0 mm from the cervix of the adjacent tooth. The platform of the implant was placed approximately 3.0 mm apical to the zenith of the adjacent tooth. Bone graft material (Bio-Oss, Geistlich AG, Wolhusen, Switzerland) was filled between the implant and the alveolar bone. The absorbable collagen membrane with a hole was covered to prevent spillage of the bone graft material. As the Implant Stability Quotient (ISQ) value measured using a Resonance Frequency Analysis (RFA) device (Osstell Mentor, Integration Diagnostic AB, Göteborg, Sweden) was 73, screw-retained provisional restoration (Titanium temporary abutment, Dentium Co., Seoul, South Korea/Tokuso Curefast, Tokuyama Dental, Tokyo, Japan) was fabricated indirectly, with the distance from the interproximal contact point between the provisional restoration and the central incisor to the crest of the interdental bone being about 4.5 mm, and connected (Fig. 2). The periapical radiograph was obtained using a paralleling technique. The distance from the contact point to the bone crest was evaluated using a linear measuring tool of Picture Archiving and Communication System (PACS) software (Marosis M-view, Marotech Inc., Seoul, Korea).

![Fig. 1. (A) Intraoral photograph, (B) Periapical radiograph at the first visit.](image1)

![Fig. 2. (A) Immediate implant was placed and provisional restoration was connected on the left maxillary central incisor, (B) Periapical radiograph after implantation on the left maxillary central incisor.](image2)
The anatomic magnification and distortion in the radiograph were calibrated with the length and diameter of the implant as reference. After 3 months, the right central incisor was extracted and the implant (4.5 × 12 mm, Superline, Dentium Co., Seoul, South Korea) was immediately placed at the mesiodistal distance of 3.0 mm from the adjacent implant. Provisional restoration of the right implant (Fig. 3) was fabricated in the same manner as described previously. The distance from the contact point to the bone crest was evaluated using the periapical radiograph. After 5 months of the right implant placement, soft tissue was stably maintained (Fig. 4). The ISQ value was measured at 80 in both implants. Final impression was taken with a customized pick-up impression coping by duplicating the contour of the provisional restoration. Customized titanium-based zirconia abutment (Myplant, Raphabio Co., Seoul, Korea) and non-splinted zirconia crown (ST zirconia Block, Upcera Co., Guangdong, China) were fabricated using Computer-Aided Design/Computer-Aided Manufacturing (CAD/CAM) (Dental system, 3Shape, Copenhagen, Denmark/Arum 5X-100, Doowon, Daejeon, Korea). Abutments were connected with 30 Ncm. Occlusal contact of the restorations was adjusted and cemented with dual cured resin cement (Permacem 2.0, DMG, Hamburg, Germany) (Fig. 5). The distance from the contact point to the bone crest was about 4 mm in the periapical radiograph. Periodic recall check was arranged. After 24 months of implant placement, the buccal marginal gingiva and interproximal papilla were stable (Fig. 6).

Fig. 3. (A) Immediate implant was placed and provisional restoration was connected on the right maxillary central incisor, (B) Periapical radiograph after provisional restorations were connected.

Fig. 4. The buccal marginal gingiva and interimplant papilla were stably maintained after 5 months of implantation.

Fig. 5. (A) Zirconia abutments were connected, (B) Zirconia crowns were cemented.

Fig. 6. (A) No marginal gingiva or interimplant papilla recession was observed after 24 months, (B) The marginal gingiva and interimplant bone around the implant were well maintained.
Discussion

Periodontal disease and surgical procedures such as flap surgery and tooth extraction are crucial factors for the loss of the interdental papilla.5 Simultaneous extraction of adjacent teeth can lead to flattening of the interproximal bone, resulting in the loss of the interdental papilla as the infrabony support is absent.11 Besides, the interdental papilla between adjacent implants is more difficult to rebuild than the interdental papilla between the natural tooth and the implant.12 Several studies have reported that atraumatic extraction, immediate implantation, and provisionalization are favorable procedures to preserve the interdental bone and the papilla.9,13

In the present case, strategic serial extraction (instead of simultaneous extraction) of the adjacent teeth and immediate implantation were performed and provisional restorations were fabricated. If multiple teeth were extracted simultaneously, blood supply from the interdental bone and periodontal ligament might be interrupted. Consequently, the interdental papilla might be missed. Because surgical or orthodontic method for rebuilding the lost interdental papilla is difficult and unpredictable, preservation of the interdental papilla is more important and effective in tooth extraction and implant placement.14,15 Serial extraction and immediate implantation can preserve the dentogingival complex (DGC) consisting of the gingival sulcus, epithelial attachment, and connective tissue attachment. When the blood supply from the DGC is maintained, the loss of the interdental bone and papilla can be minimized.16,17 In addition, since the distance from the contact point to the crest of the interdental bone between the natural teeth and the implant was less than the distance between adjacent implants, serial extraction and immediate implantation were favorable for the fabrication of provisional restoration.12

To preserve the interdental papilla, the right implant was mesiodistally placed at 3 mm away from the left implant and the provisional and final prosthesis were designed such that the distance from the contact point to the crest of the interdental bone was less than 5 mm. In addition, continuous recall check and adjustment of provisional restoration were conducted to evaluate the presence of interdental papilla.

These procedures require technical sensitivity in both implantation and laboratory procedures. However, it is considerable in preserving both hard and soft tissues around the implant in the esthetic zone. If the adjacent teeth are simultaneously extracted in the esthetic zone, it will be difficult to preserve the ideal interproximal bone and papilla. Strategic serial extraction, immediate implantation, and provisionalization are important techniques for successful implant treatment.

References

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치간 유두 보존을 위한 전략적 연속발치술과 즉시 임플란트 식립: 증례보고

최근배 1 · 이정진 2 · 안승근 2 · 서재민* 2

1. 한빛치과의원, 2. 전북대학교 치의학전문대학원 치과보철학교실 및 구강생체과학연구소

치간유두의 보존을 위해서는 치간골의 혈액공급이 매우 중요하다. 인접한 임플란트 사이의 치간유두를 재생하는 것은 치아와 임플란트 사이의 치간유두보다 어렵다. 그러므로 인접한 임플란트를 식립할 경우 임플란트 사이 조직을 보존하는 것이 필요하다. 이를 위해서 전략적 발치술, 즉 시 임플란트 식립 및 임시 보철물을 제작한 임플란트 주위 조직을 보존하는 방법으로 소개되었다. 본 증례는 손상된 양측 상악 중절치를 전략적 연속 발치술 및 임플란트 즉시 식립을 통해 회복한 환자로 24개월 뒤 임플란트 주위 조직 및 치간 유두가 안정적으로 보존되었기에 이를 보고하는 바이다. (대한치과보철학회지 2017;55:286-91)

주요단어: 치간유두, 즉시 임플란트 식립, 순차적 발치술