**PERI-IMPLANT HEALTH: CURRENT & FUTURE DIRECTIONS**

ABSTRACT

The field of implant dentistry has shown significant growth over the last 40 years as a long-term treatment modality with considerable success at enabling effective and prompt outcome of prosthesis and integration into the alveolar bone. By definition, inflammation of the soft as well as hard tissue surrounding an oral implant causing significant patient morbidity is associated with a degree of challenge from the microbial as well as physiological perspective. One of the main etiological factors that governs the transition from pathology of the peri-implant soft tissue to hard tissue is the accumulation of a biofilm. At inception, the disease process presents itself with erythema, exudation and edema. Owing to its decidedly multifactorial nature and the somewhat insurmountable nature of the challenge it poses when it comes to treatment and management, peri-implant disease has therefore gained notice in current clinical practice. In order to ensure and maintain both biological as well as mechanical stability of the prosthesis given, care needs to be taken to consider future challenges that may arise in a case, and bypass them if necessary, to do so. Oral health professionals can expect to reduce the risk of such conditions as well as better and more successful results of treatment with a decidedly multi-disciplinary approach, careful and astute planning, correct restoration as well as adequate maintenance therapy.



