



OsseoNews

## Normal dieback or implant failure?

A 70-year old female with well controlled diabetes presented with a non-restorable #10 with bone loss. An atraumatic extraction was accomplished and socket preservation was completed by a different dentist in the office. 5 months later a Legacy3 3.2×11.5 implant was placed with good primary stability. After restoration it was noted that there was bone loss along the crest of the implant. The patient was very pleased with the restoration. Is this normal die-back or implant failure? Is there anything that should be done at this point?



*Timothy C Carter* says:

Normal... You should expect bone loss to the level of the first thread. Especially with a Legacy which is possibly the worst connection in the industry.

REPLY

February 1, 2018 at 09:10:25

*Gerald Niznick* says:

Legacy has the same internal hex connection as Zimmer's Screw-Vent with 30 years of documents success. BioHorizon, MIS, Adin and many other companies have copied it exactly. The NobelActive is a slight variation with a 78 instead of 45 lead-in bevel. Perhaps all these companies should consult with you on how to redesign their implants.

REPLY

**Dr AG** says:

Legacy is not the problem, did place many in the past (Zimmer type connexion, same as BioHorizons) Any x ray before implant placement and just after to see how was the bone level. How is the soft tissue ? Another big factor. Was bone too thin, implant placed too deep ? Many factors. Now you have a pocket and need good oral care and follow up.

REPLY

January 31, 2018 at 18:20:46

**Dr H** says:

Dr Carter, could you please give some more information on a. what type of connection Legacy uses and b. why is is considered problematic. Many thanks

REPLY

January 31, 2018 at 19:37:05

**Timothy C Carter** says:

Very simple. Legacy does not have the same internal friction grip that Zimmer has. Place a Legacy 3 in 1 on an analog or an implant and compare the fit to Zimmer. . I just place about 400 implants per year so I am certainly no expert,

REPLY

January 31, 2018 at 19:52:07

**Timothy C Carter** says:

Sure. If you get a chance place a Legacy abutment on an analog or an implant and compare it to Zimmer. Legacy lacks the internal friction fit that Zimmer has. I place about 400 implants per year, so I am certainly no expert. I am in an area where a lot of people use Legacy and I do an awful lot of abutment screw repair/tightening. I also see the classic bone loss similar to that seem with Trilobe flat/flat connection.

REPLY

January 31, 2018 at 18:40:15

**Dr. Rayment** says:

My guess is that there was a very thin buccal plate that may or may not have been damaged during the extraction. It does not appear that the socket preservation did much and now someone had to bury the implant to get the threads into bone coronally. The 0.5 to 1.0 mm of bone loss is not my biggest concern here though, it is the depth of the implant and the inability of the patient to keep this clean. If we are shooting for a platform to sit 3mm apical to the adjacent CEJ I would guess in this case it is closer to 8mm? I like working with the Implant Direct Legacy 2 system and find the restorative side very user friendly.

February 1, 2018 at 08:41:19

*implant guy* says:

Tim C, how is the worst connection in the industry. It's the most widely used connection in the industry and the backbone of almost connection out there. It was patented by Niznick in 1986 and then sold to Zimmer, then licensed to many other companies. BioHorizons has the same connection, as does MIS. And many others. The new conical connections, which Implant Direct also has, was a variation of that connection. Nobel has it now too. Please back up your comment with actual factual information.

REPLY

February 1, 2018 at 08:51:02

*implant guy* says:

Tim C,

Do you know who patented the friction fit abutment connection? Dr Niznick founder of Implant Direct in 1992. Do you know we don't use it anymore, even after we sold to Zimmer. It's not needed. The way we manufacture now, over 20 years later, we mill with precision. It's not needed. It's a seatbelt. Just in case screw comes loose. If you torque to 30 ncm we are not seeing screws loosening. It's easy to blame the implant, when in fact almost all implants work. There are many factors for bone loss, and 9 out of 10 of them are not implant related. Patient and doctor technique are all factors. We just had a study published showing 100 percent success rate of legacy 3 over a 5 year period, if placed on the right patients. Why doesn't Zimmer have friction fit on their zirconia abutments?? If you feel comfortable with a friction fit abutment that is fine, but it's not needed. Also we have the interactive implant, more platform switched conical connection that performs a cold weld mechanically if you feel that connection is better, it's available.

February 3, 2018 at 11:18:55

*Mwjdds,ms* says:

Thank you Dr. Carter for letting implant guy know that, in the real world, Implant Direct implants have issues. The internal hex and flat top design is an outdated connection. Just like the external hex isn't used much anymore. And I take exception that the legacy connection is close to the conical connection of Nobel. They're not even in the same league. Legacy does not have a Morse taper, just a little fake one that's too shallow and too tapered to actually offer any resistance to movement or to bacterial leakage. Please look at Implant Direct's website. They claim their abutment for the NobelActive is better because it has a longer hex. Compare that design to the real Nobel component. This abutment needs a longer cone portion to engage the internal cone. The hex is only for indexing. But Implant Direct with their lack of understanding of how conical interfaces work try to sell you an inferior design based on their outdated internal hex design. So the abutment/implant interface is faulty and the screws fracture. Lastly, how do you make an implant less expensive? Dumb down the manufacturing. The tighter the manufacturing tolerances the more expensive parts and implants are to make. What system do you want in your mouth?

September 2, 2019 at 10:13:05

**Dr. Jerry Niznick** says: Your comment is awaiting moderation.

Implant Direct's website in 2018 did not claim that its InterActive (NobelActive) 78deg. implant connection is better than the original 45deg. Screw-Vent/Legacy. connection. I made InterActive implants and abutments to offer Nobel customers a better yet more economical option but today, with Nobel executives running Implant Direct, all product comparisons have been eliminated from the website. I explain the differences on my new website <http://www.niznick.com> and try to answer the question "What is the best design for an implant-abutment connection?" <https://youtu.be/ZsPFZuPoS7M>. When I was president of Implant Direct, I developed what I called Reality Check Videos comparing various Implant Direct Systems to their compatible premium priced products. You can find these videos on the Video section and all in the Controversies section of <http://www.niznick.com>

February 3, 2018 at 12:55:56

*Implant guys* says:

Implant manufacturers will take issue with Dr. Christensen's position on price point. After a question about the risks of using "cheap, copycat implants," he took the "Big 3" implant makers to task for what he perceives as inflated costs.

"If you're with the three biggest companies, I'll say right to you: You're losing market because the prices are obscenely high," Dr. Christensen stated. His opinion, he added, was based on his knowledge of what it costs to make titanium implant pieces. "I know how much," he said, "and it's not much."

The panelists also were in consensus that the key to implant product selection is finding a predictable implant with science behind it. But it doesn't end there. "It's important to me that someone will be behind me 100%," he said of implant makers. "It's about the support they give you."

In some cases, the generic products are worthy alternatives. "We've tested many. Some are as good as or better than the ones they copy," Dr. Christensen said.

He described his positive experience with Implant Direct. "I went to the factory and saw their copycats of brand names. I had them mill them while I was there," he said. "And we've tested them and the implant company they were mimicking. Look seriously at these companies.

REPLY

February 3, 2018 at 15:02:16

*Implant guy* says:

"The internal hex is outdated" hmmm. Patented in 1986 by Dr Niznick and then licensed all over the industry. Used by Zimmer...BioHorizons...Adin..AB..Alpha Bio...MIS...Ace Surgical...Blue Sky Bio...

The list goes on and on. Nobel Active came from Alpha Bio in Israel. Wasn't able to come to US until 2007 when patent was up. Implant Direct just published a study done by Dr John Cavallaro showing 100% success rate...50 implants...5 yrs. It can't be denied....and neither can the most widely used connection industry wide. If you would rather have a conical hex with a bigger platform switch Implant Direct has that too. If you have any more questions...please reach out.

**implant guy** says:

Tim C,

Do you know who patented the friction fit abutment connection? Dr Niznick founder of Implant Direct in 1992. Do you know we don't use it anymore, even after we sold to Zimmer. It's not needed. The way we manufacture now, over 20 years later, we mill with precision. It's not needed. It's a seatbelt. Just in case screw comes loose. If you torque to 30 ncm we are not seeing screws loosening. It's easy to blame the implant, when in fact almost all implants work. There are many factors for bone loss, and 9 out of 10 of them are not implant related. Patient and doctor technique are all factors. We just had a study published showing 100 percent success rate of legacy 3 over a 5 year period, if placed on the right patients. Why doesn't Zimmer have friction fit on their zirconia abutments?? If you feel comfortable with a friction fit abutment that is fine, but it's not needed. Also we have the interactive implant, more platform switched conical connection that performs a cold weld mechanically if you feel that connection is better, it's available.