Abstract

The Objective of this doctoral thesis is to examine the clinical and scientific evidence for a variety of treatment protocols with fixed implant-supported rehabilitations in edentulous jaws. This thesis will addresses the multiple parameters identified as influential factors in successfully achieving osseointegration with modified loading protocols for completely edentulous arches. These factors include patient health, oral conditions, occlusion and function/parafunction, characteristics of the proposed implant site, implant size and shape, implant material and surface properties, implant distribution along the arch, timing and methodology of implant placement including primary implant stability, loading procedures, and long-term maintenance. Recommendations for loading protocols in edentulous patients presented here are based on the validation process presented in chapter 4.

Chapter 5, 6, 7, and 8 will address the implant and prosthodontics related clinical outcomes. In this context, selection of a specific prosthetic design for the final rehabilitation should consider implant number and distribution, as well as rehabilitation material and the retention mechanism. Chapter 9 will assess the incidence and type of biological and technical complications associated with implant-fixed complete dental prostheses (IFCDPs) for edentulous patients.