

11. Accuracy of abutment level impressions compared to implant level impressions - a systematic review

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Purpose: To analyse available scientific data and assess the accuracy of abutment level impressions compared to implant level impressions . **Materials and methods:** medline- pubmed, pmc databases were searched till july 2018 using mesh terms and free text key words - implant and impression and abutment level; abutment level impression and implant level impressions. Articles of invitro and invivo studies, published in english, comparing abutment level impressions with implant level impressions were read by two independent observers. . **Results:** all the 466 search results were manually screened. Eliminating duplicates and irrelevant articles resulted in 72 articles. Abstracts and full text of these articles were read and 19 articles that matched eligibility criteria were included in the study. Nine studies showed that abutment level impressions were as accurate as implant level impressions and seven studies concluded that abutment level impressions showed no difference from control with few stating that splinting improves accuracy. One study each showed that implant level impressions were more accurate and use of metal transfer coping resulted in better fit of prostheses than a snap fit plastic cap. The only prospective clinical study included, found the two techniques comparable in implant csr and bone levels. . **Conclusion:** within the limitations of the review, it can be concluded that the level of impression had an effect on the impression accuracy. Accuracy is effected by splinting of transfer copings, coping material, and angulation of the implants.

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