

Titanium dental implants : allergy is a reality

With the rise of oral implantology and democratization of techniques employing devices made of titanium, it becomes increasingly difficult to deny the obvious : the allergy to titanium is a reality. Presented by a clever marketing as a material with excellent biocompatibilité in addition to its ability to integrate with the bone (osseointegration), titanium is in fact a toxic cell, as explained in titanium, the end of myth of perfect tolerance. Even if many professionals say that's impossible, there is indeed an allergy to titanium. The worrying question of allergy to titanium has been raised at the last congress of the EAO (European Association of Osseointegration) in Zurich. A study conducted in Spain and published in the journal Clinical Oral Implants Research * confirms the reality of allergy to titanium. Conducted on a sample of 1,500 patients, carriers of implants or candidats for implantation, this work has revealed positive tests for titanium in 9 patients, where 3 had developed symptoms of allergy after the introduction of an implant and 5 had been victims of a failure of implantation. «Although the prevalence of allergy to titanium is low (around 0.6% in this series), we must think and strive for patients suffering from allergy symptoms after implantation but also to an unexplained failure of implantation», concludes the article. For his part Professor Skejdahl who developed the Melisa test, says that 4% of patients tested by the Melisa protocol proved intolerant or allergic to titanium. It behaves by disturbing the immune system. The titanium particles released by electro-galvanic bind to proteins in the body. Thus, these denatured proteins are identified by the body as foreign agents that the body will attempt to remove, generating symptoms such as rash, muscle pain, chronic fatigue syndrome, or autoimmune disease. Better take preventions. Taking action once the implant is fixed, is like trying to extinguish the fire while the entire house burns. Indeed, the implant once integrated with the bone, it is no longer possible to extract as you would for a natural tooth. If it remains possible, the removal of an osseointegrated implant has a high cost to the bone. It is therefore essential to test the tolerance to titanium before implant placement. For this purpose, the Melisa test can be used. To avoid the drawbacks of titanium, it is possible to use non-metallic implants of superior biocompatibility. See on this item Pratikadent Implant (detailed specifications on the site editions Luigi Castelli).

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