



Precision in Practice: Advancements and Best Practices in Oral Surgery

Aesop Mac*

Department of Dental Medicine, Qatar University, Qatar

DESCRIPTION

Oral surgery encompasses a wide range of surgical procedures performed in the oral and maxillofacial region, addressing various dental, oral, and facial conditions. These procedures may range from routine extractions of teeth to complex surgeries involving the jaw, facial bones, soft tissues, and associated structures. Common oral surgeries include tooth extractions to remove diseased, impacted, or damaged teeth, often necessary to alleviate pain, prevent infection, or create space for orthodontic treatment. Additionally, oral surgery is frequently performed to address impacted wisdom teeth, which can cause pain, infection, and damage to adjacent teeth if left untreated. Beyond extractions, oral surgery plays a crucial role in the treatment of conditions such as dental implants, which involve the surgical placement of artificial tooth roots into the jawbone to support prosthetic teeth. This procedure is commonly performed to replace missing teeth and restore oral function and aesthetics. Similarly, oral surgery may be necessary for bone grafting procedures to augment bone volume in the jaw, creating a suitable foundation for dental implant placement or restoring bone loss due to periodontal disease or trauma. Moreover, oral surgery is integral in the management of various oral and maxillofacial pathologies, including cysts, tumors, and infections affecting the jaws, oral cavity, or facial structures. Surgical excision or biopsy of these lesions is often required for diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of disease progression. Furthermore, corrective jaw surgery, also known as orthognathic surgery, may be indicated to correct skeletal discrepancies, malocclusions, or facial asymmetry, improving both function and aesthetics for patients with craniofacial abnormalities. Cosmetic or aesthetic oral surgeries are also performed to enhance facial harmony and aesthetics, addressing concerns such as gummy smiles, chin augmentation, or lip augmentation. These procedures may involve soft tissue surgeries, bone reshaping, or dental

implant placement to achieve the desired aesthetic outcome. Oral surgery procedures are typically performed under local anaesthesia, intravenous sedation, or general anaesthesia, depending on the complexity of the procedure and the patient's preference and medical history. Prior to surgery, patients undergo thorough preoperative evaluation, including medical and dental history review, physical examination, radiographic imaging, and laboratory tests, to ensure safe and successful surgical outcomes. Postoperative care instructions are provided to patients to facilitate optimal healing and minimize complications, including pain management, dietary recommendations, and oral hygiene instructions. In addition to surgical interventions, oral surgeons may also provide non-surgical treatments such as dental implant restoration, bone grafting, and facial cosmetic procedures. They collaborate closely with other dental specialists, including orthodontists, periodontists, prosthodontists, and otolaryngologists, to deliver comprehensive care and achieve optimal treatment outcomes for patients. Overall, oral surgery plays a vital role in the diagnosis, treatment, and management of a wide range of dental, oral, and facial conditions. By combining surgical expertise with advanced technology and interdisciplinary collaboration, oral surgeons help restore oral function, alleviate pain, improve aesthetics, and enhance the overall quality of life for their patients. Continued research and innovation in oral surgery techniques and technology further contribute to the advancement of this specialized field, ensuring the delivery of safe, effective, and patient-centred care.

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CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The author's declared that they have no conflict of interest.

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Corresponding author Aesop Mac, Department of Dental Medicine, Qatar University, Qatar, E-mail: aesop@gmail.com

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