



**International College of Prosthodontists
London Symposium – Satellite Meeting
August 30 – September 2, 2023**

Invited Speaker – Terry Walton

Title

The Evolution of the Implant-Abutment Interface – R.I.P. the External Hex?

Abstract

Brånemark introduced the external hexagon (ex-hex) implant platform for fully edentulous patients, but osseointegrated implant dentistry soon expanded to include single tooth and segmental tooth replacement. This was accompanied with the introduction of the internal connection implant platform of various geometries. Subsequently, the ex-hex is largely seen as redundant. But is this a result of good science or group think.

This presentation will explore the evolution of the implant-abutment connection – the associated micro-gap, bacterial percolation, marginal bone loss and mechanical stability.

It would appear the science is settled and the internal connection platform has significant advantages over the ex-hex. So should the ex-hex be confined to history? But how reliable is the science? Are there still indications for the ex-hex?

Biography

Dr Terry Walton graduated Bachelor of Dental Surgery and Master of Dental Science from the University of Sydney in 1974 and 1979 respectively; Master of Science (Prosthodontics) from the University of Michigan in 1981 and Doctor of Dental Science from the University of Sydney in 2013. Dr Walton has been in Specialist Prosthodontist practice in Sydney since 1983 and holds the title of Professor Affiliate in Clinical Dentistry in the Faculty of Medicine and Health at the University of Sydney. He teaches post-graduate students at both the University of Sydney and the University of Queensland. He is a member of many Australian and International dental organisations including the International College of Prosthodontists of which he was co-president in 2000-2001 during 2000 and 2001, The International College of Dentists and the Pierre Fauchard Academy. He is a reviewer for several journals. Dr Walton has been involved in practice-based clinical research into the long-term outcome and patient evaluation of tooth and implant-supported dental prostheses. He was awarded a Member of The Order of Australis for services to dentistry in 2007.