Maintaining Ailing Teeth: A Realistic Treatment Option in the Era of Dental Implants

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Dental implants have provided a predictable means to replace teeth that are ailing/failing. Their predictability and generalizability have been such that many clinicians have abandoned trying to manage challenging clinical dilemmas like an advanced infrabony or furcation lesion. There are however, many clinical situations where ailing/failing teeth would be best managed by their retention. Topics to be covered will include the emerging use of lasers, biologic agents that are currently being employed and their relative merits for treating not only ailing teeth but implants afflicted by peri-implantitis, and the emerging use of innovative products such as composite allografts with stem cells.

Learning objectives:

- List some of the currently used biologic and barrier materials and techniques involved in regeneration which can help increase positive predictability.
- Identify the factors that will both enhance and limit successful outcomes.
- List emerging technologies that may facilitate regenerative efforts