ISSN(O): 3107-7889

Jana Nexus: Journal of Health and Medicine

Publisher's Name: Jana Publication and Research LLP

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REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: JNHM- 184

Title: Socket-Shield Technique for Immediate Implant Placement: A Literature Review.

Recommendation:

Accept after minor revision

Rating	Excel.	Good	Fair	Poor
Originality			✔	
Techn. Quality			✔	
Clarity		✔		
Significance	✔			

Reviewer's Name: Bilquees Hamza

Detailed Reviewer's Report

General Overview

The reviewed manuscript, titled "Socket-Shield Technique for Immediate Implant Placement: A Literature Review," presents a comprehensive, well-structured, and balanced evaluation of the Socket-Shield Technique (SST) as a partial extraction therapy in implant dentistry. The paper thoroughly covers the biological rationale underlying SST—specifically the preservation of the periodontal ligament-bundle bone complex to prevent post-extraction facial alveolar bone remodeling. It outlines surgical protocols, clinical execution steps (including root sectioning, shield preparation, and palatal implant positioning), and radiographic and esthetic outcomes based on recent meta-analyses and systematic reviews. Importantly, the author maintains a critical perspective by documenting technique-specific complications (such as internal and external shield exposure, shield mobility, infection, and root resorption) and acknowledging key limitations in the current evidence base, such as study heterogeneity and a lack of long-term randomized controlled trials.

Suggestions for the Improvement

While the manuscript is written to a high professional and academic standard, a few minor refinements would further elevate its quality prior to publication. First, the surgical execution section could be expanded slightly to address digital workflow integrations (such as static or dynamic guided shield preparation and 3D virtual planning), which are rapidly becoming standard in modern partial extraction therapies. Second, while Figure 1 cleanly illustrates the clinical stages of SST, incorporating explicit figure callouts within the relevant narrative sections of the text (e.g., under Sections 3.2 and 3.3) would improve reader navigation and visual integration. Third, in the tabular comparison between SST and conventional immediate implant placement (Table under Section 6), expanding on the financial cost

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considerations and required operator learning curve would provide practicing clinicians with a more practical decision-making matrix. Finally, ensuring complete consistency in citation formatting and verifying all recent reference entries (including 2025–2026 citations) will ensure full compliance with journal guidelines.

Recommendation for the Editor

In light of its rigorous biological grounding, thorough synthesis of current clinical evidence, and balanced discussion of surgical risks and limitations, I recommend that the manuscript be accepted for publication following **minor changes**. The review makes a valuable contribution to the literature on esthetic zone immediate implant therapy. Addressing the minor suggestions regarding digital planning, figure cross-referencing, and minor table enhancements will prepare the paper fully for final publication