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NAVIGATION-GUIDED DENTAL IMPLANTATION IN ATROPHIC JAWS: CURRENT CAPABILITIES, ACCURACY, AND CLINICAL PERSPECTIVES

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ABSTRACT

Alveolar bone atrophy remains one of the most significant challenges in contemporary dental implantology, particularly in patients with long-term edentulism. Progressive resorption of the alveolar ridge leads to a reduction in bone volume and density, limiting the possibilities of conventional freehand implant placement and increasing the risk of surgical and prosthetic complications. In this context, digital technologies and navigation-guided implant surgery have emerged as promising tools to enhance precision and clinical predictability.The aim of this review is to analyze current evidence regarding the application of static and dynamic navigation systems for implant placement in atrophic jaws, with particular attention to surgical accuracy, deviation parameters, and clinical outcomes. The review summarizes data on linear and angular deviations, factors influencing precision, and comparative outcomes between conventional and guided approaches.Recent studies demonstrate that navigation-guided implantation significantly reduces apical and coronal deviation, improves prosthetically driven implant positioning, and minimizes the risk of injury to anatomical structures. Furthermore, precise three-dimensional planning contributes to better preservation of marginal bone levels and supports the principles of the Zero Bone Loss Concept, especially in anatomically compromised conditions.Despite higher costs and the need for specialized training, navigation technologies represent an important advancement in implant dentistry, offering enhanced safety, reduced invasiveness, and improved long-term prognosis in patients with insufficient bone volume.

Introduction: Alveolar bone atrophy is one of the most prevalent and clinically significant challenges in modern dental implantology. Following tooth extraction, physiological bone remodeling inevitably results in progressive horizontal and vertical resorption of the alveolar ridge. The most pronounced dimensional changes occur within the first year after tooth loss, although bone reduction may continue throughout life in the absence of functional loading. In patients with long-term edentulism, severe ridge atrophy frequently leads to insufficient bone volume for conventional implant placement, thereby complicating surgical planning and prosthetic rehabilitation. Contemporary epidemiological and clinical studies published in international peer-reviewed journals, including recent publications indexed by Springer (2022–2025), confirm that bone deficiency remains a primary limiting factor for predictable implant therapy in both partially and completely edentulous patients.Traditional freehand implant placement in atrophic jaws presents several limitations. Reduced bone height and width increase the risk of damaging critical anatomical structures such as the inferior alveolar nerve, maxillary sinus, and nasal cavity. In such cases, clinicians often resort to bone augmentation procedures, including guided bone regeneration, sinus floor elevation, or block grafting techniques. Although these interventions have demonstrated clinical effectiveness, they are associated with increased surgical invasiveness, prolonged treatment time, higher cost, and potential complications. Moreover, even after successful augmentation, implant positioning may remain compromised due to anatomical constraints and intraoperative deviations inherent to conventional techniques.Over the past decade, the rapid development of digital technologies has transformed implant dentistry. The integration of cone-beam computed tomography (CBCT), intraoral scanning, computer-aided design/computer-aided manufacturing (CAD/CAM), and three-dimensional treatment planning software has enabled prosthetically driven implant placement with enhanced accuracy. According to contemporary reviews and clinical studies published in international platforms such as Cureus and other peer-reviewed journals, digital workflows contribute to improved visualization of anatomical structures, better control of implant angulation and depth, and reduced intraoperative variability. These advances have paved the way for navigation-guided implant surgery, which can be performed using static (surgical template-based) or dynamic (real-time tracking) systems.Parallel to the evolution of digital surgery, the concept of marginal bone preservation has gained increasing attention. The Zero Bone Loss Concept, introduced and further developed within the framework of biologically oriented implant protocols, emphasizes the importance of maintaining stable peri-implant bone levels through precise implant positioning, optimal soft tissue management, and controlled prosthetic loading. In atrophic jaws, where bone availability is already limited, even minor deviations in implant placement may result in biomechanical overload and subsequent crestal bone loss. Therefore, accurate three-dimensional planning and guided execution become critical components in achieving long-term stability.Despite the growing body of literature addressing digital implantology and guided surgery, the specific role of navigation systems in the management of atrophic jaws requires comprehensive analysis. While individual clinical studies and dissertation-based investigations have reported favorable accuracy and survival rates, a structured synthesis of current evidence remains necessary to clarify indications, limitations, and clinical perspectives.

Materials and Methods. This review was conducted to systematically analyze current evidence on navigation-guided dental implantation in patients with jaw atrophy, with a particular focus on accuracy, clinical outcomes, and technological advancements.A comprehensive literature search was performed using major scientific databases, including PubMed, SpringerLink, ScienceDirect, MDPI, and Cureus, as well as regional academic platforms such as CyberLeninka and dissertation repositories. The search covered publications from 2015 to 2025, with an emphasis on studies published between 2022 and 2025 to ensure актуальность данных.The following keywords and combinations were used: “jaw atrophy”, “alveolar bone resorption”, “dental implantation in atrophic bone”, “guided implant surgery”, “static navigation”, “dynamic navigation”, “implant accuracy”, “CBCT planning”, “digital dentistry”. Boolean operators (AND, OR) were applied to refine the search strategy. A total of over 50 sources were initially identified. After screening titles, abstracts, and full texts, the most relevant studies were selected for qualitative synthesis. Particular attention was given to high-impact journals (Q1–Q2), including publications from Springer Nature, BMC Oral Health, and ScienceDirect-indexed journals, as well as recent clinical and experimental studies on digital implantology.Data extraction focused on the following parameters: etiology of bone atrophy, limitations of conventional implantation, principles of digital planning, characteristics of navigation systems, and quantitative indicators of implant placement accuracy (linear and angular deviations).The collected data were analyzed using a narrative synthesis approach, allowing for a structured comparison of traditional and navigation-guided implantation techniques in atrophic jaws.

Alveolar bone atrophy represents a multifactorial and progressive process that significantly complicates dental implantation. The analysis of the literature demonstrates that post-extraction bone resorption remains the leading etiological factor. Following tooth loss, the absence of functional loading initiates rapid bone remodeling, in which osteoclastic activity predominates over osteoblastic bone formation, resulting in vertical and horizontal bone loss [1,13,20]. These structural changes reduce the available bone volume and create unfavorable conditions for implant placement.Inflammatory processes, particularly chronic periodontitis and peri-implant infections, further accelerate bone resorption. The mechanism is largely mediated by pro-inflammatory cytokines, including interleukin-1β and tumor necrosis factor-α, which enhance osteoclastogenesis and suppress regenerative processes [3,16]. Clinical data confirm a direct relationship between the severity of periodontal disease and the degree of alveolar ridge resorption, indicating that inflammation is not only a local but also a prognostically significant factor affecting implant outcomes [5,16].Age-related changes represent another critical component influencing bone quality. With increasing age, a decline in bone mineral density, vascularization, and regenerative capacity is observed. These processes are associated with reduced osteoblastic activity and increased marrow adiposity, which negatively impact bone remodeling and healing potential [6,13]. As a result, elderly patients often present with compromised bone conditions that complicate implant therapy and require more advanced planning approaches.Systemic conditions, including osteoporosis, diabetes mellitus, and hormonal imbalances, also play a significant role in the progression of bone atrophy. Osteoporosis reduces trabecular density and cortical thickness, thereby limiting the mechanical support necessary for implant stability [8,18]. In addition, metabolic disorders impair angiogenesis and collagen synthesis, which are essential for successful osseointegration and long-term implant survival [9,16]. These findings highlight the importance of considering both local and systemic factors in treatment planning.From a clinical perspective, bone deficiency has a direct and significant impact on implant outcomes. One of the most critical parameters is primary stability, which depends on the mechanical engagement between the implant and surrounding bone. In atrophic jaws, reduced cortical thickness and low trabecular density lead to insufficient anchorage, increasing the risk of micromovements and early implant failure [10,15,20]. This is particularly relevant in protocols involving immediate or early loading, where stability is a key determinant of success.Osseointegration is also adversely affected under conditions of reduced bone volume. Effective bone healing requires a balanced interaction between osteoblasts and osteoclasts, as well as adequate vascular supply. In atrophic bone, impaired vascularization and decreased cellular activity delay new bone formation and weaken the bone–implant interface [12,13,18]. This results in prolonged healing periods and may compromise the long-term stability of implants.In addition to biological limitations, bone deficiency is associated with an increased risk of surgical and prosthetic complications. These include implant malpositioning, perforation of anatomical structures such as the maxillary sinus or inferior alveolar nerve, and the frequent need for additional augmentation procedures [14,19]. The literature consistently indicates that implant placement in severely resorbed ridges is characterized by greater variability and lower predictability compared to cases with sufficient bone support [11,15].

The findings discussed above demonstrate that bone atrophy significantly complicates implant treatment and necessitates the use of more advanced and precise clinical approaches. In this context, the rapid advancement of digital technologies has fundamentally transformed contemporary implantology, enabling a shift from conventional experience-based methods to data-driven and highly accurate treatment protocols [1,4]. The integration of cone-beam computed tomography (CBCT), intraoral scanning, CAD/CAM systems, and virtual planning has substantially improved diagnostic capabilities, surgical predictability, and overall clinical outcomes, particularly in patients with limited bone volume [1,3,8].CBCT has become a key diagnostic tool in modern implantology due to its ability to provide high-resolution three-dimensional visualization of anatomical structures. Unlike conventional two-dimensional imaging, it allows for precise assessment of bone volume, density, and spatial relationships with critical anatomical landmarks such as the maxillary sinus and the inferior alveolar nerve [1,12]. The results of recent studies indicate that CBCT-based planning significantly reduces intraoperative risks and improves the accuracy of implant positioning, which is especially important in anatomically compromised cases [1,4,12].The introduction of intraoral scanning has further enhanced digital workflows by enabling the acquisition of highly accurate digital impressions without the limitations associated with traditional impression materials. This technology ensures precise recording of soft tissue morphology and occlusal relationships, facilitating prosthetically driven implant planning. In addition to improving accuracy, intraoral scanning increases patient comfort and reduces cumulative errors inherent in analog techniques, thereby contributing to more predictable treatment outcomes [8,9].The combination of CBCT data with intraoral scans forms the foundation of CAD/CAM technologies, which play a central role in modern implantology. These systems enable the design and fabrication of surgical guides, provisional restorations, and definitive prosthetic constructions with a high degree of precision. By reducing operator-dependent variability and standardizing clinical procedures, CAD/CAM workflows ensure reproducibility and consistency of results [1,3,10]. Clinical evidence shows that the use of CAD/CAM-generated surgical guides significantly improves the accuracy of implant placement compared to free-hand techniques, reducing positional and angular deviations [3,4,10].Virtual implant planning represents a critical stage within the digital workflow, allowing clinicians to simulate implant placement in a three-dimensional environment. This approach takes into account prosthetic requirements, available bone volume, and biomechanical factors, ensuring optimal implant positioning in terms of angulation and depth. As a result, the risk of surgical complications is reduced, and both functional and aesthetic outcomes are improved [4,11].The analysis of current literature also highlights the importance of the Zero Bone Loss concept, which emphasizes the preservation of peri-implant bone through precise implant positioning, minimally invasive surgical techniques, and optimal load distribution [17]. Digital planning tools are essential for implementing this concept, as they allow accurate control of implant placement relative to crestal bone levels and surrounding soft tissues. It has been demonstrated that even minor deviations in implant positioning can negatively affect marginal bone stability and aesthetic outcomes, particularly in the anterior region [1,3,17].The available evidence indicates that digital transformation has created a robust foundation for the development and implementation of navigation-guided surgery.The integration of advanced diagnostics, virtual planning, and computer-assisted execution effectively addresses the limitations of conventional approaches and significantly enhances treatment precision. This is particularly relevant in patients with jaw atrophy, where anatomical constraints require highly accurate implant positioning and a high level of clinical predictability [1,4,16,30].

The integration of digital technologies into implant dentistry has led to the development of navigation-guided implantation, which represents a significant advancement in improving surgical precision and predictability. These systems enable the accurate transfer of virtual implant planning into the clinical setting, thereby minimizing positional deviations and reducing the risk of complications, particularly in patients with reduced bone volume and anatomically complex conditions [5,8,16].Navigation-guided implantation is generally based on two principal approaches, which differ in their method of transferring the planned implant position into the surgical field. One approach relies on patient-specific surgical guides fabricated according to preoperative planning. These guides function as mechanical templates that control drilling direction, angulation, and depth. The workflow includes CBCT acquisition, integration with intraoral scanning data, virtual planning, and subsequent fabrication of the guide using CAD/CAM technologies, most commonly through 3D printing [1,7,10].The analysis of clinical studies demonstrates that this approach significantly improves the accuracy of implant placement compared to conventional free-hand techniques. Reported deviations are relatively low, with coronal discrepancies typically ranging from 0.5 to 1.5 mm, apical deviations from 0.7 to 2.0 mm, and angular deviations between 2° and 5°, depending on clinical conditions and guide stability [1,10,12,19]. These results are particularly important in cases of jaw atrophy, where precise implant positioning is critical due to limited bone volume and proximity to vital anatomical structures.At the same time, the evidence indicates several limitations associated with this method. One of the main disadvantages is the lack of intraoperative flexibility, as the surgical plan cannot be modified once the guide has been fabricated. In addition, cumulative errors may occur at different stages of the workflow, including image acquisition, data merging, guide design, and manufacturing. Guide stability is also a critical factor, since even minor micromovements during surgery may lead to clinically significant deviations. Furthermore, restricted mouth opening, limited surgical access, and soft tissue interference may complicate the correct positioning and use of the guide [7,19,28].A more advanced approach involves real-time navigation systems that provide continuous tracking of surgical instruments relative to the patient’s anatomical structures. This technology is based on optical or electromagnetic tracking and allows dynamic visualization of the drill position during the procedure. After registration of the patient’s anatomy with preoperative CBCT data, the clinician can monitor the trajectory, angulation, and depth of the implant in real time, enabling immediate corrections when necessary [5,16,30].The results of recent studies demonstrate that this approach provides accuracy comparable to, and in some cases exceeding, that of guide-based methods. Reported deviations remain within clinically acceptable limits, while the ability to adapt intraoperatively represents a significant advantage, particularly in complex clinical scenarios such as severe jaw atrophy [5,14,16]. This adaptability allows clinicians to respond to unexpected anatomical variations and optimize implant positioning during surgery.Additional advantages include improved surgical control, elimination of the need for physical guides, and enhanced visualization in anatomically challenging regions. Dynamic systems also facilitate minimally invasive approaches and may reduce the need for extensive flap elevation. However, the literature highlights several limitations, including a steep learning curve, dependence on accurate registration, and potential technical errors related to tracking systems.High equipment costs and increased operative time during the initial learning phase may also limit widespread clinical adoption [5,14,16,30].The comparative analysis of available evidence indicates that both navigation approaches significantly improve implant placement accuracy compared to conventional techniques. Guide-based methods provide high reproducibility and standardization of procedures, while real-time navigation offers superior intraoperative flexibility and control. The choice of technique should therefore be determined by clinical conditions, the degree of bone atrophy, surgeon experience, and the availability of technological resources. In patients with compromised bone volume, the use of navigation-guided implantation plays a crucial role in reducing complications and improving the predictability of treatment outcomes [1,14,16,30].

The integration of digital technologies into implant dentistry has enabled the development of navigation-guided implantation, significantly improving surgical precision and predictability, especially in conditions of reduced bone volume. These systems allow the transfer of virtual planning into the clinical environment with a high degree of accuracy, thereby minimizing deviations and reducing the risk of intraoperative and postoperative complications [5,8,9]. Both static and dynamic navigation approaches demonstrate clear advantages over conventional free-hand techniques in terms of reproducibility and control of implant positioning [10,11].Static navigation is based on the use of patient-specific surgical guides fabricated according to preoperative digital planning. The workflow includes CBCT acquisition, intraoral scanning, data merging, virtual implant positioning, and CAD/CAM-based guide fabrication, typically using 3D printing technologies. Clinical application of these guides ensures controlled drilling and implant placement in accordance with the planned angulation and depth. Multiple studies confirm that static navigation significantly improves placement accuracy, with mean coronal deviations ranging from 0.5 to 1.5 mm, apical deviations from 0.7 to 2.0 mm, and angular deviations between 2° and 5° [1,7,10,19]. These parameters are particularly critical in patients with jaw atrophy, where anatomical limitations increase the risk of complications.At the same time, the results highlight several limitations of static navigation. The absence of intraoperative flexibility restricts the ability to modify the surgical plan once the guide is fabricated. In addition, cumulative errors may occur at different stages, including CBCT imaging, data alignment, guide design, and manufacturing processes. Guide stability remains a key factor affecting accuracy, as even minimal displacement during surgery can lead to clinically significant deviations. Furthermore, clinical conditions such as limited mouth opening, restricted access, and soft tissue interference may complicate the use of surgical templates [7,28,29].Dynamic navigation represents a more flexible and technologically advanced approach, allowing real-time tracking of surgical instruments relative to the patient’s anatomy. This system is based on optical or electromagnetic tracking technologies, enabling continuous monitoring of drill position, angulation, and depth during the procedure. Real-time visualization provides the clinician with the ability to adjust implant positioning intraoperatively, which is particularly valuable in anatomically complex cases [5,16,30].Clinical studies demonstrate that dynamic navigation achieves accuracy comparable to, and in some cases exceeding, that of static guides. Reported deviations remain within clinically acceptable ranges, with improved control over apical positioning due to real-time correction capabilities [5,9,16]. This adaptability is especially important in patients with severe bone atrophy, where intraoperative findings may necessitate deviation from the original plan.However, the discussion of results also indicates certain limitations associated with dynamic systems. These include a pronounced learning curve, dependence on precise patient registration, and the potential for technical errors related to tracking accuracy. Additionally, high equipment costs and increased operative time during the initial stages of adoption may limit widespread clinical implementation [9,16].The comparative analysis of both approaches demonstrates that navigation-guided implantation consistently provides higher accuracy than conventional techniques. Static navigation ensures standardization and reproducibility, whereas dynamic navigation offers superior intraoperative control and flexibility. The choice between these methods should be determined by clinical conditions, anatomical complexity, and the clinician’s experience, particularly in the management of patients with jaw atrophy.The evaluation of accuracy further confirms that navigation-guided implantation is a reliable and predictable method. Linear deviations at the coronal level typically range from 0.5 to 1.3 mm, while apical deviations vary from 0.6 to 2.0 mm depending on the navigation system used. Angular deviations are generally within 2°–5° for static systems and slightly lower for dynamic systems, reflecting improved control of implant angulation [1,3,10,12]. These values are significantly lower than those reported for free-hand implantation, particularly in complex clinical scenarios.The analysis also demonstrates that multiple factors influence the final accuracy of implant placement. Bone density plays a crucial role, as low-density bone increases the risk of deviation, especially at the apical level. Guide stability is essential for static systems, particularly in edentulous patients where mucosa-supported guides may introduce additional variability. Operator experience remains a critical determinant, as proficiency in digital workflows and navigation systems directly affects clinical outcomes [3,11].In addition, errors related to data acquisition and processing may impact accuracy. These include inaccuracies in CBCT imaging, segmentation, data merging, and virtual planning. In dynamic navigation, improper patient registration may result in systematic deviations, while in static systems, manufacturing tolerances and limitations of 3D printing technologies may introduce discrepancies [10,11].Thus, the obtained results and their discussion indicate that navigation-guided implantation significantly enhances the precision and predictability of implant placement. At the same time, achieving optimal outcomes requires careful consideration of technological limitations, anatomical conditions, and operator-related factors, which together determine the overall success of treatment in patients with reduced bone volume.

The clinical effectiveness of navigation-guided implantology is primarily reflected in high implant survival rates, reduced complication incidence, and improved preservation of peri-implant hard and soft tissues. Recent clinical data confirm that the use of navigation systems significantly enhances treatment predictability, especially in patients with reduced bone volume and anatomically complex conditions [3,10,11].Implant survival rates associated with navigation-guided protocols are consistently high and comparable to, or slightly higher than, those observed with conventional free-hand techniques. Contemporary studies report survival rates ranging from 95% to 99% over short- and medium-term follow-up periods. These favorable outcomes are largely attributed to accurate three-dimensional implant positioning, optimized biomechanical load distribution, and reduced surgical trauma [3,10].A key finding is the significant reduction in intraoperative complications, particularly cortical perforations. In free-hand implantation, the risk of damaging anatomical structures such as the maxillary sinus or inferior alveolar nerve is considerably higher, especially in cases of severe jaw atrophy. In contrast, navigation-guided approaches provide precise control over implant trajectory, angulation, and depth, thereby minimizing such risks. Clinical studies demonstrate a statistically significant decrease in perforation rates when guided techniques are applied [10,11,12].At the same time, the results indicate that complications cannot be completely eliminated. In static navigation, inaccuracies are often associated with errors in guide fabrication, improper positioning of the surgical template, or lack of intraoperative flexibility. In dynamic systems, potential sources of error include inaccurate patient registration, tracking instability, and operator-related factors. In addition, biological complications such as peri-implant mucositis and peri-implantitis may still occur and are largely dependent on patient-related variables, oral hygiene, and prosthetic design rather than the navigation technique itself [8,16].An essential parameter of long-term clinical success is the preservation of marginal bone around implants. Excessive bone loss negatively affects both functional stability and aesthetic outcomes. In this context, the concept of maintaining peri-implant bone stability has become increasingly important, emphasizing minimally traumatic surgical techniques, prosthetically driven implant positioning, and optimal management of peri-implant tissues [17].The findings demonstrate that precise three-dimensional implant positioning is critical for preventing marginal bone remodeling. Even minor deviations from the planned position may disrupt load distribution and contribute to crestal bone loss. Navigation-guided implantation plays a crucial role in addressing this issue by enabling accurate control over implant depth, angulation, and spatial orientation. This precision reduces the risk of overcompression, cortical perforation, and improper implant alignment, thereby supporting long-term tissue stability [10,11].Clinical evidence further indicates that guided implantation is associated with reduced marginal bone loss compared to conventional approaches, particularly in esthetically demanding regions. This advantage is especially relevant in patients with jaw atrophy, where preservation of the remaining bone is critical for treatment success [3,10,18].Therefore, the results and their analysis confirm that navigation-guided implantation not only improves surgical accuracy but also has a direct positive impact on key clinical outcomes, including implant survival, complication rates, and peri-implant bone preservation. The integration of digital planning and guided execution supports a biologically oriented approach to treatment and reinforces the role of precision-based implantology in modern clinical practice [8,9].

Despite substantial advancements, several limitations and unresolved issues continue to restrict the widespread adoption and long-term validation of navigation-guided implantology. Economic, educational, methodological, and scientific challenges must be carefully considered when implementing digital and navigation-assisted protocols in routine practice.A major limitation is the high cost of navigation systems and associated digital infrastructure. The use of cone-beam computed tomography, intraoral scanners, planning software, and navigation equipment requires significant financial investment. Maintenance costs, software updates, and consumables further increase the economic burden, limiting accessibility in low-resource settings and contributing to disparities in advanced implant care [1,6,20].Specialized training and a steep learning curve are additional constraints. Both static and dynamic navigation systems require clinicians to master digital workflows, including image acquisition, data integration, virtual planning, and guided surgical execution. Dynamic navigation particularly demands advanced hand–eye coordination and interpretation of real-time tracking data. Inadequate training may increase procedural time, technical errors, and reduce placement accuracy, especially during early adoption [5,12,25].The absence of standardized clinical protocols further complicates implementation. Despite evidence supporting navigation-guided implantation, there is no universal consensus regarding optimal workflows, accuracy thresholds, or indications for static versus dynamic navigation. Variability in study design, measurement methods, and reporting standards hinders comparison across studies and the development of evidence-based guidelines [2,7,10,11].Long-term clinical data remain limited. Most studies focus on short- to medium-term outcomes, leaving the effects of navigation-guided implantation on peri-implant tissue stability, prosthetic complications, and overall treatment success uncertain. Randomized controlled trials with extended follow-up are essential to confirm the long-term advantages of these technologies [3,9,14,15].Additional sources of error are inherent to digital workflows, including inaccuracies in data acquisition, image segmentation, registration, and guide fabrication. In dynamic systems, minor errors in patient registration can result in systematic deviations during surgery. Integration of different digital platforms may also introduce compatibility challenges, affecting workflow efficiency and precision [6,8,12,27].While navigation-guided implantology represents a substantial advancement, its full clinical potential remains unrealized. Addressing current limitations—particularly cost, training, standardization, and long-term evidence—will be critical for broader implementation and optimization in clinical practice.Emerging digital technologies are expected to further enhance precision, efficiency, and predictability. Integration of artificial intelligence into implant planning may assist in analyzing CBCT datasets, identifying anatomical landmarks, and suggesting optimal implant positions based on prosthetic and biomechanical parameters, reducing operator-dependent variability [8,9].Robotic-assisted implant surgery represents another promising development. By combining robotic control with real-time navigation, these systems can execute preoperative plans with minimal deviation, improving surgical stability, reducing human error, and enhancing reproducibility. Although currently limited in availability, robotic implantology may move clinical practice toward fully automated procedures [9,25].

Advances in automated calibration and registration technologies are expected to improve dynamic navigation accuracy and usability. Enhanced tracking and software algorithms may simplify registration, reduce setup time, and minimize manual calibration errors, increasing efficiency and accessibility [5,7,16].Integration of surgical and prosthetic workflows into a unified digital ecosystem is another future direction. Seamless connection between planning, surgical execution, and prosthetic rehabilitation supports prosthetically driven protocols, precision implantology, and concepts like Zero Bone Loss by optimizing implant positioning relative to final restorations [1,3].

In summary, future developments in artificial intelligence, robotics, automated navigation, and integrated digital workflows are poised to further transform implant dentistry, enabling more standardized, minimally invasive, and patient-specific approaches.

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