

## Article

# Effect of the Lateral Bone Augmentation Procedure in Correcting Peri-Implant Bone Dehiscence Defects: A 7-Years Retrospective Study

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**Abstract:** Guided bone regeneration (GBR) is a well-documented and widely-used dental surgical procedure for the treatment of various types of alveolar bone defects. The aim of the study was to evaluate the long-term effectiveness of the GBR procedure in correcting small peri-implant bone dehiscence using the xenogeneic deproteinized bovine bone mineral material and a xenogeneic native bilayer collagen membrane. The present study was designed as a retrospective study. Seventy-five bone-level tapered two-piece dental implants Conelog<sup>®</sup>, Camlog (Biotechnologies AG, Switzerland) were divided into two groups G1—no bone augmentation (no GBR)—44 implants and G2—bone augmentation (GBR)—31 implants. For both groups, the closed healing protocol with a primary wound closure was used. The incidence of peri-implantitis was evaluated, the quantitative assessment of soft tissue thickness was performed using the ultrasound (USG) device, quantitative assessment of marginal bone loss (MBL) was done. The prevalence of peri-implantitis was 5.3%, with a three-fold increase in peri-implantitis comparing the groups without and with bone augmentation (G1 = 2.27%, G2 = 9.7%). The average keratinized gingiva thickness was 1.87 mm and did not differ significantly between groups. No statistically significant differences in MBL between G1 and G2 were found. When dividing patients by gender, no statistically significant differences were observed. When dividing patients by age groups, statistically significant differences were observed between the youngest and oldest groups of patients. Within the limitations of this study, it can be concluded that the use of xenogeneic bone and a xenogeneic collagen membrane in a GBR procedure can be recommended to correct small peri-implant bone dehiscence.

**Keywords:** guided bone regeneration; GBR; implant; soft tissue; marginal bone loss; bone graft



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## 1. Introduction

Dental implants are nowadays considered a highly predictable treatment option to replace missing teeth with a reported long-term (10–20 years) survival rate of 89.5% and 92.7% [1,2]. However, when bone dehiscence is present at the time of implant placement to place a dental implant, different bone regenerative techniques, such as guided bone regeneration (GBR), need to be used. GBR is a successful, well-documented and widely used dental surgical procedure used to treat various alveolar bone defects [3,4]. GBR requires the application of a resorbable or non-resorbable membrane to exclude non-osteogenic tissues from interfering with bone regeneration and can be used as a surgical procedure preceding implant treatment [5,6].

Currently, a broad spectrum of grafting materials of different origins, such as allografts, xenografts, and alloplastic materials, is available [7,8]. Similarly, materials of different origins are available in various forms ranging from blocks to bone chips, and this provides the dental surgeon and patient with many treatment options. The situation with membranes is no different; the choice between non-resorbable (including Polytetrafluoroethylene

PTFE; expanded polytetrafluoroethylene e-PTFE, high-density polytetrafluoroethylene d-PTFE; Titanium-Reinforced PTFE Membranes, Titanium Mesh and Cage membranes) and resorbable membranes of different types and origins is wide [9]. Depending on their origin, resorbable membranes used in GBR can be divided into natural polymers (collagen membranes) and synthetic polymers (aliphatic polyesters (e.g., poly (lactic acid) (PLA), poly (polyglycolic acid) (PGA), poly ( $\epsilon$ -caprolactone) (PCL) [10,11].

Undoubtedly, the treatment options are wide, but most importantly, they require adaptation to a specific clinical situation. Since the beginning of dental implantology, implant placement in the aesthetic zone in such a way that implants imitate nature and, at the same time, maintain healthy tissues has been challenging. The perfect three-dimensional position of the implant is critical for proper prosthetic restoration, especially in the aesthetic area. When a proper prosthetic-driven implant positioning of the implant requires covering small fenestration or dehiscence caused by an exposed implant surface on its facial aspect, the GBR technique, in combination with xenogeneic bone and resorbable membranes, can be used [12]. In these situations, the GBR can be used simultaneously with implant placement since, according to Chiapasco and Zaniboni [13], guided bone regeneration procedures are a reliable means for treating dehiscences and fenestrations created during implant placement.

The first objective of the study was to evaluate the long-term effectiveness of the applied GBR procedure in correcting small peri-implant bone dehiscence using the xenogeneic deproteinized bovine bone mineral material and a xenogeneic native bilayer collagen membrane. A secondary objective was to evaluate factors that may influence marginal bone loss.

Hypotheses of this study were:

1. When the GBR procedure is used for implant dehiscence treatment, it does not influence the marginal bone loss around the implant in 7 years of observation;
2. There are no gender-related differences in marginal bone loss around implants;
3. There is no difference in marginal bone loss around implants between age groups.

## 2. Materials and Methods

### 2.1. Study Design

The present study was a retrospective study aimed at evaluating the long-term effectiveness of the applied GBR procedure in correcting small peri-implant bone dehiscence. The study was performed in Wrocław Medical University Dental Clinical and Teaching facility. Among the group of patients who received Conelog<sup>®</sup>, Camlog (Biotechnologies AG, Switzerland) implants as part of a clinical trial conducted in 2012–2014, a group of patients was selected who received implants with lateral bone contour regeneration and placed with no bone regeneration. Medical records of a 7-year follow-up were analyzed. A bioethics approval for this follow-up study was granted by a local bioethics committee of Wrocław Medical University (registration number 861/2021). The study has been conducted in full compliance with the Declaration of Helsinki. All patients gave two written consents: the first was general consent to have dental implants placed, and the other consent involved participation in the clinical study. The original clinical study analyzed changes in soft tissue thickness; detailed data from the clinical study and 12 months of follow-up can be found in our study [14]. In a 5 years follow-up period, the soft tissue augmentation with CTG (connective tissue graft) 3 months prior to implant placement was found to be the most effective method in terms of the soft tissue thickness gain—1.035 mm (SD = 0.73 mm) over the entire follow-up period (5 years) [15].

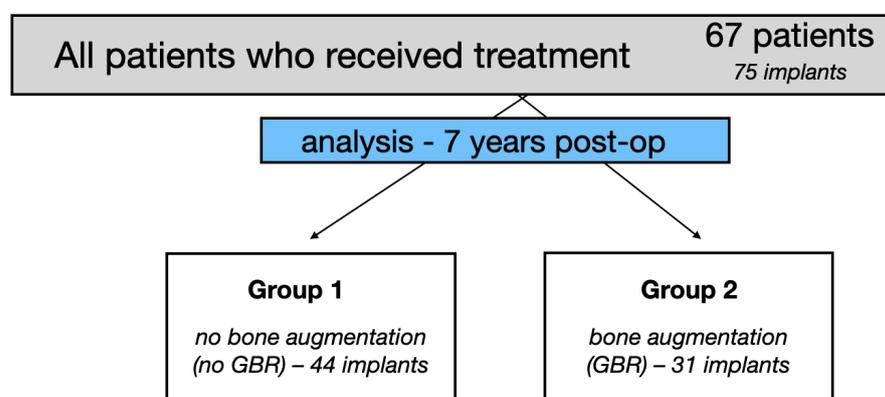
The purpose of the present study was to evaluate previously unanalyzed medical data in terms of the influence on MBL. The influence of lateral GBR procedure, gender structure, and age structure was analyzed. The prevalence of peri-implantitis was also assessed.

### 2.2. Clinical Data, Groups of Patients, Surgery, Implant Loading

The medical records of 67 patients (27 male, 47 female) who had 75 bone-level tapered two-piece dental implants Conelog<sup>®</sup>, Camlog (Biotechnologies AG, Switzerland).

The 3.8 mm and 4.3 mm diameter implants of different lengths were used in the study. Implants were placed in the healed bone in the aesthetic area of both jaws were selected (no prior GBR allowed). Specific exclusion criteria for this group of patients were presented previously [16]; briefly: generally healthy adult patients were included, and patients with periodontal disease, noncontrolled metabolic diseases, and heavy smokers were excluded.

The implants were divided into 2 groups: G1—no bone augmentation (no GBR)—44 implants, and G2—bone augmentation (GBR)—31 implants, Figure 1. All of the patient records analyzed and included in the study contained full details of the procedure, including the depth of the implant placement and the GBR procedure used in case of dehiscence presence. Forty-four implants were inserted and completely embedded in the native bone, placed equicrestally. In 31 implants where the dehiscence (to the implant first thread) was present, the external lamina of the alveolar process was augmented during implantation with the deproteinized bovine bone mineral material (Bio-Oss<sup>®</sup>, Geistlich Pharma AG, Switzerland) and a native bilayer collagen membrane (Bio-Gide<sup>®</sup>, Geistlich Pharma AG, Switzerland) to cover the exposed implant surface on the facial aspect. For both groups, the closed healing protocol with a primary wound closure was used (Figure 1).



**Figure 1.** Allocation of patients, size of the groups. Guided bone regeneration (GBR) G1—no bone augmentation (no GBR)—44 implants, G2—guided bone augmentation (GBR)—31 implants.

Implant loading took place after 6 months. Conventional impressions were taken using the polyether (PE) impression compound Impregum Penta (3M, Maplewood, MN, USA). All implants were restored on a standard abutment provided by the implant manufacturer's Camlog (Biotechnologies AG, Switzerland) with metal-ceramic cemented single crowns with semipermanent cement (Implantlink<sup>®</sup>, Detax, Germany). A follow-up clinical appointment for all the patients included was conducted by the same investigator (AB).

### 2.3. Clinical Outcomes

Patient clinical evaluation included bleeding on gentle probing and biological complication such as peri-implantitis. Peri-implantitis, according to the 2017 World Workshop on the Classification of Periodontal and Peri-Implant Diseases and Conditions, involves bone levels  $\geq 3$  mm apical of the most coronal portion of the intra-osseous part of the implant together with bleeding on probing [17]. During the clinical examination, the thickness of keratinized tissue (TKT) in the surrounding implant site was examined using the Ultrasound (USG) device Piro<sup>®</sup> (Echoston, Poland) as described previously in our study.

### 2.4. Marginal Bone Loss

Since all the implants in G1 were placed equicrestally, and in G2, the bone augmentation was performed to cover the first implant thread, the level of 0 was taken as the initial value for further measurements. The MBL was reported in mm and referred to millimeters of bone loss compared to the initial value.

The intraoral radiographs were done using a holder (Visualize HD<sup>®</sup>, Gendex<sup>®</sup>, USA). The radiological evaluation and X-ray measurements were done using the Gendex software

(Gendex<sup>®</sup>, USA). X-ray image was calibrated using build-in calibration Gendex VixWin Platinum (Gendex<sup>®</sup>, USA). The known diameter of the dental implants was used for the calibration. The same device and software were used in all cases.

### 2.5. Statistical Analysis

The statistical analysis was performed using the GraphPad Prism 9 software [GraphPad Software, Inc., USA]. The data obtained in the study were tested to check the normal distribution (Shapiro–Wilk and Kolmogorov–Smirnov tests). Depending on the criteria met (normal distribution), an appropriate test was selected for further analysis. A parametric and nonparametric statistical approach was applied depending on the data. An unpaired *t*-test was used for parametric, and a Mann–Whitney U test for non-parametric data. All data are means  $\pm$  standard deviation (SD).  $p < 0.05$  was considered statistically significant.

## 3. Results

### 3.1. Implant Survival Rate

All of the 75 placed implants remained integrated after 7 years. This resulted in a 100% implant survival rate.

### 3.2. Peri-Implantitis

A total number of 4 implants met the criteria for periimplantitis [17] (bone levels  $\geq 3$  mm apical of the most coronal portion of the intra-osseous part of the implant together with bleeding on probing). This corresponds to 5.3% of the total implants placed in the study.

Among the G1 group with no GBR, based on clinical and radiological examination, one patient (2.27%) was diagnosed with peri-implant disease. However, in the G2 group, where the xenogeneic bone substitute was used in the GBR procedure, three patients (9.7%) were diagnosed with peri-implantitis. This indicates a three-fold increase in peri-implantitis comparing the groups without and with bone augmentation.

When dividing patients into groups by gender, 11% of male patients were diagnosed with periimplantitis and only 2.1% of female patients.

When patients were analyzed by age groups, in the youngest group (25–40 years old), a 4.35% rate of peri-implantitis was found; in the middle group (41–60 years old), this rate was 2.94%, and in the oldest group (61–72 years old) 10.5% of patients were diagnosed with peri-implantitis.

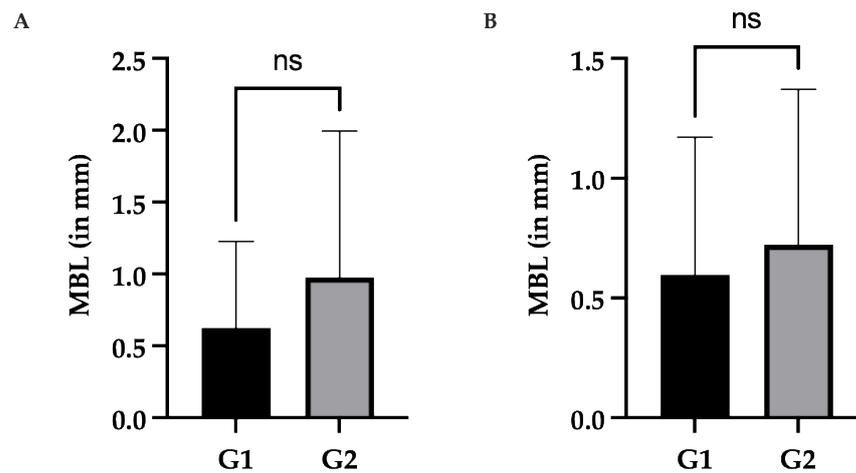
It was decided to include the entire group of patients in further analysis; however, due to the severe peri-implantitis cases found that might affect the results, especially in some groups, the results are given separately (see results all figures) for the whole group (75 implants) and for the group excluding the peri-implantitis cases (71 implants).

### 3.3. Marginal Bone Loss

For G1 with no bone augmentation, a mean MBL = 0.63 was nominally lower than in G2, where a bone augmentation was performed, and the MBL was 0.98. However, no statistically significant differences were observed between these groups (Figure 2A, Table 1). In this case, all patients were included, including those diagnosed with peri-implantitis, and importantly, even after excluding cases of peri-implantitis, no significant differences were observed between the groups (Figure 2B).

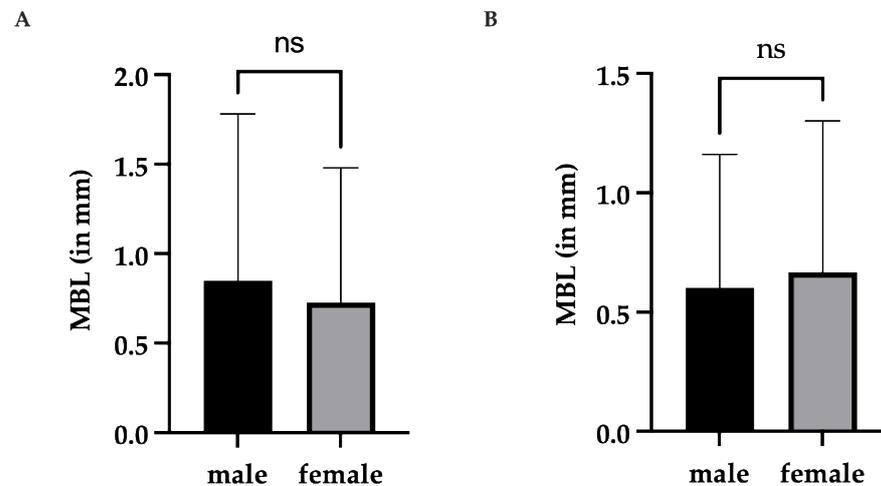
**Table 1.** Marginal bone loss (MBL) for Group G1 and Group G2.

	G1	G2	G1, Excluded Peri-Implantitis	G2, Excluded Peri-Implantitis
mean MBL (in mm)	0.63	0.98	0.60	0.72
SD	0.6	1.0	0.57	0.65
minimum	0	0	0	0
maximum	2.12	3.97	2.17	2.60



**Figure 2.** Marginal bone loss (MBL) in G1 (no bone augmentation) and G2 (bone augmentation) (A) all patients included in the study; (B) patients with peri-implantitis excluded. Error bars shown in this figure are means ± SD. The abbreviation non-significant (ns) is used for statistically nonsignificant, statistically significant at  $p \leq 0.05$ .

When dividing patients by gender, no statistically significant differences were observed between men and females (MBL = 0.85mm and MBL = 0.73mm, respectively). Similarly—after excluding patients with peri-implantitis, no statistically significant differences were noted (Figure 3, Table 2).



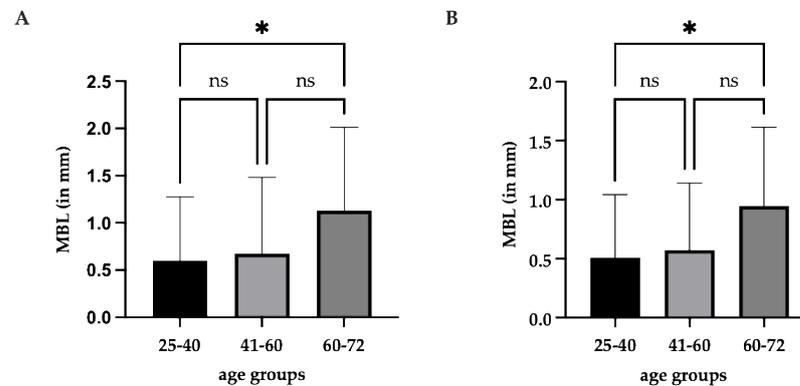
**Figure 3.** Marginal bone loss (MBL) for both gender groups. (A) all patients included in the study; (B) patients with peri-implantitis excluded. Error bars shown in this figure are means ± SD. The abbreviation ns is used for statistically nonsignificant, statistically significant at  $p \leq 0.05$ .

**Table 2.** Marginal bone loss (MBL) for both gender groups. Data are means ±SD.

	Male	Female	Male Peri-Implantitis Excluded	Female Peri-Implantitis Excluded
mean MBL (in mm)	0.85	0.73	0.60	0.67
SD	0.93	0.75	0.56	0.64
minimum	0	0	0	0
maximum	3.97	3.5	1.95	2.58

When dividing patients by age groups (age ranges: 25–40; 41–60; 60–72), statistically significant differences were observed between the youngest (25–40 years old) and oldest group (60–72 years old) of patients (MBL = 0.85mm and MBL = 0.73mm, respectively)

Figure 4, Table 3. The patient's age given in the results is the age at the time of the 7-year follow-up; patients were younger at the time of surgery.



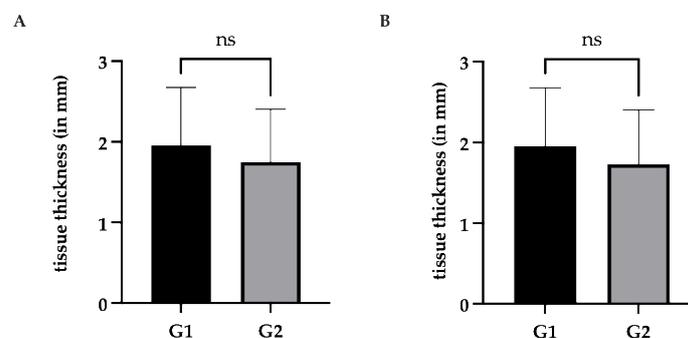
**Figure 4.** Marginal bone loss (MBL) in age groups. (A) all patients included in the study; (B) patients with peri-implantitis excluded. Error bars shown in this figure are means  $\pm$  SD. The abbreviation ns is used for statistically nonsignificant, \* statistically significant at  $p \leq 0.05$ .

**Table 3.** Marginal bone loss (MBL) in age groups. Data are means  $\pm$  SD.

All Implants	25–40 Years Old	41–60 Years Old	60–72 Years Old
mean MBL (in mm)	0.60	0.67	1.13
SD	0.68	0.80	0.88
minimum	0	0	0
maximum	2.60	3.97	3.50
Excluded peri-implantitis	25–40 years old	41–60 years old	60–72 years old
mean MBL (in mm)	0.51	0.57	0.95
SD	0.54	0.57	0.67
minimum	0	0	0
maximum	1.95	2.17	2.58

### 3.4. Soft Tissue

The mean value of the thickness of keratinized tissue (TKT) analyzed together for both G1 and G2 was 1.87 mm. The mean values of TKT in the implant area were similar in both groups. No statistically significant differences were observed between these groups, G1 (no bone augmentation) and G2 (bone augmentation), in terms of the TKT (Figure 5, Table 4). In this case, all patients were included, including those diagnosed with peri-implantitis, and importantly, even after excluding cases of peri-implantitis, no significant differences were observed between the groups (Figure 5B).



**Figure 5.** The thickness of keratinized tissue (TKT) in G1 (no bone augmentation) and G2 (bone augmentation). (A) all patients included in the study; (B) patients with peri-implantitis excluded. Error bars shown in this figure are means  $\pm$  SD. The abbreviation ns is used for statistically nonsignificant, statistically significant at  $p \leq 0.05$ .

**Table 4.** Thickness of keratinized tissue (TKT) in studied groups of patients. Data are means  $\pm$  SD.

	G1	G2	G1, Excluded Peri-Implantitis	G2, Excluded Peri-Implantitis
mean TKT (in mm)	1.95	1.74	1.95	1.73
SD	0.72	0.65	0.72	0.67
minimum	0.72	0.45	0.72	0.45
maximum	3.45	2.9	3.45	2.90

Regarding the research hypotheses:

1. The first research hypothesis was accepted. No statistically significant ( $p < 0.05$ ) differences in terms of marginal bone loss were found between the groups with and without guided bone regeneration;
2. The second research hypothesis was accepted. No gender-related differences were found in marginal bone loss;
3. The third hypothesis was rejected. A statistically significant difference in marginal bone loss around the implant neck was found between the age group 25–40 and 60–72.

#### 4. Discussion

Our aim was to evaluate the long-term effectiveness of the applied GBR procedure in correcting small peri-implant bone dehiscence using the xenogeneic deproteinized bovine bone mineral material and a xenogeneic native bilayer collagen membrane. To assess the effectiveness of treatment with the GBR method, several factors affecting long-term treatment were evaluated. Among them are the implant survival rate in augmented and nonaugmented sites, the incidence of complications (particularly peri-implantitis), and the marginal bone loss in the peri-implant area.

The implant survival rate was 100% in the 7 years of observation. However, the survival rate itself applies only to implants that have been integrated or lost and is not sufficient for a positive assessment of the treatment method.

The stability of hard and soft tissues around dental implants is believed to be a key factor for long-term implant treatment. In our study, it was found that when the guided bone regeneration with a xenogeneic bone is used for implant dehiscence treatment, it does not influence the marginal bone loss around the implant in 7 years of observation.

Taking into account the frequency of the need to perform GBR procedures presented by Cha et al. [18] who, during a retrospective evaluation of the 1512 implants, placed found that bone graft was performed in estimated that up to 50% of all dental implant procedures, among the bone grafted sites, sinus lifting with lateral approach (22.1%) and guided bone regeneration (22.7%).

An important aspect is the type of material used in the GBR procedure. Despite the widespread use of bone grafts and their substitutes, there are still limitations that remain associated with these commonly used dental surgical biomaterials. Starting with golden standard autogenous bone that needs to be obtained from intraoral and extraoral sites from the same individual. The disadvantages of autogenous bone are the lack of availability of graft tissue, associated pain, and morbidity at the site donor. Autogenous odontogenic materials are biocompatible and have the inorganic component of autogenous teeth; however, it is necessary to have and process patient teeth [19]. Then allogeneic bone provides many options for its use, ranging from guided bone regeneration of small defects to extensive reconstructions using 3D allogenic graft blocks for mandibular sagittal bone defect reconstruction, as described by Dominiak et al. [20]. Allogenic materials can be prepared in three primary forms—fresh, frozen, or freeze-dried. Fresh and frozen allograft materials possess superior osteoinductive properties, but at the same time, they carry the greatest risks risk of a host immunogenic response [21]. The further processing of allogenic material through freeze-drying can decrease the immunogenicity at the cost of decreased osteoinductive potential [21]. Animal materials are also widely used, including the deproteinized bovine bone, which is commercially available as BioOss (Bio-Oss®),

Geistlich Pharma AG, Switzerland) and was used in our study. The porous structure of deproteinized bovine bone resembles the human bone and can provide mechanical support and stimulate bone healing through osteoconduction [22–24]. The application of the bovine bone is very wide and covers most GBR indications. However, it is important to keep in mind the biggest limitation of this material, which is exclusively osteogenic potential. Referring to the systematic review and meta-analysis from the Canellas et al. group [25], it seems that xenograft materials should be considered among the best available graft materials for preserving the alveolar process after tooth extraction. A 5-year study conducted by Ozkan et al. [26] found that sufficient quality and volume of bone allows for the predictable placement of implants in the maxillary sinus augmented with bovine bone grafts. Various combinations of biomaterial combinations have been described in the literature to maximize the advantage and minimize the disadvantage of the biomaterials described above. As an example, allogenic bone can successfully be used in combination with xenografts for guided bone regeneration (GBR) in bone augmentation procedures as described by the Urban group for the technique known by the common name “the sausage technique” where a particulated autogenous bone with an organic bovine bone-derived mineral is used [27,28]. The literature also describes the possible use of bovine xenogeneic bone in GBR combined with blood derivatives such as platelet-rich plasma (PRP), platelet-rich fibrin (PRF), and concentrated growth factors CGF are used in various days of dentistry to promote healing and their combination with bone graft particles is known colloquially as a sticky bone [23,29,30].

The use of xenogeneic bone to graft increases the width of the alveolar process when used in lateral augmentation [31]. Sanz-Sanches et al. found that lateral ridge augmentation procedures with implant placement can maintain peri-implant health over time [32]. Zitzmann et al. [33], in a 5-year follow-up, demonstrated that dehiscenced implants, if treated with GBR (membrane + grafting material), may lead to a survival rate of implants similar to that obtained in implants completely embedded in native bone. Severi et al. [34], in the latest systematic review and meta-analysis, have found that reconstructive surgical correction of peri-implant dehiscences and fenestrations with GBR is associated with a lower probability of implant dehiscences and fenestrations persistence when compared to a repositioning of a full-thickness flap without use of reconstructive techniques. The application of the xenogeneic bone material and a xenogeneic collagen membrane is considered to be a recommended, well-documented and widely used dental surgical procedure [35,36]. We have found no statistically significant differences in MBL between no GBR G1 and GBR G2; moreover, even after excluding cases of peri-implantitis, still no significant differences were observed between the groups, and the nominal differences between the groups were even smaller.

Taking into account the characteristics of the material, it seems reasonable to recommend xenogeneic bone in the case of the treatment of small peri-implant bone defects such as dehiscence.

In our material, the incidence of peri-implantitis complications was assessed, and a total of 5.3% of patients were diagnosed with peri-implantitis. Peri-implantitis is an inflammatory process that affects both the hard and soft tissues that surround dental implants. This condition is caused by a polymicrobial aggressive biofilm that colonizes the implant and abutment surface at the peri-implant crevice level [37]. According to Diaz et al. [38], as stated in a systematic review and meta-analysis, the mean prevalence of peri-implantitis is 19.53% at the patient level. Derks et al., in a 9-year observational study of randomly selected 588 patients of the Swedish population, observed 45% of all patients with peri-implantitis (bleeding on probing/suppuration and bone loss > 0.5 mm) and a moderate/severe peri-implantitis (bleeding on probing/suppuration and bone loss > 2 mm) was diagnosed in 14.5% of patients and bone loss > 2 mm) [39]. However, the reports of the prevalence of peri-implant mucositis and peri-implantitis range are relatively wide and can be dependent on the study population, as Wada et al. found in their review the population that attends dental office for regular maintenance have a lower incidence of

peri-implant disease [40]. Our result of 5.3% of patients diagnosed with peri-implantitis is significantly less than the recent available literature describes. However, it should be noted that in our study, the included patients were generally healthy, heavy smokers, and patients with uncontrolled metabolic diseases were excluded. In addition, the group of patients analyzed in our study was under regular medical care from the time the implants were inserted, which, as Wada et al. [40] point out, is not insignificant for the occurrence of peri-implant inflammation. Although peri-implantitis is thought to be caused mainly by dental plaque accumulation on the implant or abutment surface, many other risk factors have been reported, including cigarette smoking, noncontrolled diabetes, osteoporosis, history of periodontitis, presence of keratinized mucosa, occlusal overload, the surface of trans gingival abutment element, and the position of implant-abutment junction [40–43]. Our results have shown a three-fold increase in peri-implantitis incidence, comparing the groups without and with bone augmentation (no GBR G1 = 2.27%, GBR G2 = 9.7%). However, the literature does not mention GBR as a risk factor for peri-implantitis [38,44]. Similarly age structure of the patient with a diagnosed peri-implant disease, in our study, there were differences found between the age groups of patients, but there are still isolated cases of peri-implantitis that are, therefore, difficult to interpret.

Proper width and thickness of the gingival connective tissue have been proven to be one of the success criteria in dental reconstructive surgery. The mean value of the thickness of keratinized tissue (TKT) analyzed together for both G1 and G2 was 1.87 mm.

According to the literature, the influence of soft tissue remains not insignificant in terms of preserving the bone around the implant. Linkevicius [45] found that the gingival tissue thickness at the alveolar crest can significantly affect marginal bone loss (MBL) around implants. A value of 2 mm has been described in the literature as necessary to maintain the proper level of bone in the area of the implant [14,45–47]. Gianfilippo et al. [48], in a recent systematic review, have found that the soft tissue thickness is correlated with MBL except in cases of platform-switching implants when implants with thin tissues and screw-retained prostheses are used. In the case of our study, platform-switching implants were used, and soft tissue thickness was similar in both groups with no GBR G1 = 1.95 and GBR G2 = 1.74 with no statistically significant difference, so it can be assumed that tissue thickness did not affect the results of our comparison between G1 without augmentation and G2 with augmentation on the MBL.

The characteristics of the dental implant have an influence on the surrounding tissue behavior among the position of the implant platform in relation to the height of the alveolar crest (supracrestal, equicrestal, subcrestal); the type of connection between the implant and the superstructure, e.g., utilizing the platform switching [49–51]. Valles et al. [52], in a systematic review, found that platform-switching implants placed in a subcrestal position seem to have less marginal bone level changes when compared with implants placed equicrestal. However, Valles et al. [52] pointed out that significant differences were only observed in animal studies. In our study, Conelog<sup>®</sup>, Camlog bone level platform switching implants were used and placed equicrestally in all cases, so it can be assumed that the position of the implants did not affect the results of the comparison between the groups.

The limitation of the presented study is its design as a retrospective study. The long-term analysis is based on the patients' medical records.

## 5. Conclusions

Within the limitations of this retrospective study, it can be concluded that the use of xenogeneic deproteinized bovine bone mineral material and a xenogeneic native bilayer collagen membrane in a GBR procedure can be recommended to correct small peri-implant bone dehiscence.

**Author Contributions:** Conceptualization, J.H.; methodology, J.H.; software, J.H.; formal analysis, M.D.; investigation, J.H. and A.B.; data curation, A.B.; writing—original draft preparation, J.H.; writing—review, J.H. and T.G.; visualization, J.H.; supervision, J.H. All authors have read and agreed to the published version of the manuscript.

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**Institutional Review Board Statement:** All the patients in the original study were informed of the planned treatment, its possible consequences and had given their written consent for the procedure. The protocol of this retrospective study was approved by the Bioethics Committee of the Medical University of Wroclaw. The follow-up required a bioethics committee approval that was granted (registration number 861/2021).

**Informed Consent Statement:** All patients gave two written consents: the first was general consent to have dental implants placed, and the other consent involved the participation in the clinical study. The study has been conducted in full compliance with the Declaration of Helsinki.

**Data Availability Statement:** Data available on request.

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**Conflicts of Interest:** The authors declare no conflict of interest.

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