

Questions every clinician should ask about grafting materials

Ask: Will I truly get the same material every time I order? Is the material always processed using the same method by the same manufacturer?

Did you know? There are a number of tissue banks, but not all are forthcoming about their tissue processing; and processing may vary from lot to lot, depending on recovery site, and type and amount of tissue. To maximize consistency of results, all of Zimmer Dental's graft materials are processed through the same tissue bank (RTI Biologics, Inc.), using the same controlled and validated process every single time.

Ask: Would I want to implant tissue in my patients that has not been terminally sterilized? Is this tissue terminally sterilized?

Did you know? The Center for Disease Control recommended in 2004 that tissue banks process all tissue using sterilization (e.g. gamma irradiation) in order to eradicate bacteria spores (e.g. clostridium) [Kainer MA, Linden JV, Whaley DN et al. Clostridium infections associated with musculoskeletal-tissue allografts. *N Engl J Med.* 2004;350:2564-2571]. While some companies continue to produce aseptic rather than sterile grafts, all Zimmer Dental grafts are terminally-sterilized. Note: "sterile packaged" ≠ "sterile product."

Ask: Am I concerned about antibiotic reactions in patients? What residual antibiotics might I find in this graft material?

Did you know? 3-5% of the US population has antibiotic-related allergies [Gruchalla RS, Pirmohamed M. Clinical practice. Antibiotic allergy. *N Engl J Med.* 2006;354:601-609]. Many grafts are delivered with a variety of residual antibiotics that must be checked against patient records prior to implantation. No Zimmer Dental grafts contain residual antibiotics.

Ask: Many companies claim to provide safe tissue, but has their tissue process been validated by one or more independent laboratories?

Did you know? Not all tissue processes have been validated for efficacy and consistency. The *Tutoplast*® Process has been validated for inactivation of viruses and pathogens and for preservation of tissue biomechanics. Viral inactivation was validated by several independent laboratories. [Schoepf C. Allograft safety: efficacy of the Tutoplast® process. *Intl Magazine of Oral Implantology.* 2006;1:10-15].

Ask: How much is known about the safety, reliability and consistency of the process used to treat these tissue grafts?

Did you know? Over 3 million *Tutoplast*-processed tissue grafts have been implanted in patients for more than 35 years.

Ask: Is this graft available in all the formulations that I need?

Did you know? Many clinicians prefer to customize graft material according to patient and procedure. For example, Zimmer Dental offers both *Puros*® Cortical and *Puros* Cancellous, in both 0.25-1mm and 1-2mm sizes.

Ask: Does this company have a well-informed regenerative sales force?

Did you know? Zimmer Dental has a nationwide team of Regenerative Sales Specialists to help select indication-based regenerative materials for optimal patient outcomes.

Ask: Is this supplier able to meet all of my regenerative needs?

Did you know? Zimmer Dental is a global leader in regenerative offerings with one of the most comprehensive and high-quality portfolios of solutions for dental grafting needs.

