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## Ridge augmentation, techniques for grafting the extraction site in preparation for dental implants placement

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While the need for bone grafting has been significantly reduced, it has not been eliminated entirely. However, in most cases it is now relegated to small minimally invasive interventions that can be managed quite easily in an ambulatory (office) setting. Furthermore, while bone grafting of earlier years involved harvesting and using large quantities of the patient's own bone (autogenous grafts), today we can often use processed bone that has been harvested from animals (i.e., cows). These grafts are termed as xenografts and are generally comprised only of the mineral content of natural bone, have been sterilized and have had all organic material removed. Using bovine bone (cow bone) as a graft material has become commonplace in most oral surgical offices today and has been a tried and proven technique for

many years. A simplified explanation for the success of this form of grafting is that a bovine bone graft is placed to act as a biological placeholder. Initially, it mechanically prevents the collapse of the surrounding tissues, whether that is bone or soft tissue. Then, through a process called guided tissue regeneration, the human body is fooled biochemically to recognize the graft as natural bone and over time resorbs and replaces it with the patient's own native bone.

### Speaker Biography

Dr. Farzat Alksiri has completed his Master of Dental Surgery from Cairo University. He is currently working as an Assistant Professor of Advanced Education in oral Implantology at Damascus University, Syria.

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