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Referring to FIG. 18, a short and wide dental implant 400 has a body 402 with the same or similar structure to that of body 302 on implant 300 except here a porous portion 404 has exterior, porous threads 406 for adding further support and stability. Implant 400 may also have a non-porous strengthening collar 410, similar to collar 316, and core 408, similar to core 309, if present. While the implant 400 may be threaded into a bore in the jaw bone, in an alternative procedure, the implant 400 is press-fit into the jaw bone bore. The outer edges of the threads contact the bone and provide the initial stability. Over time, the bone will osseointegrate between the individual threads to rotationally lock the implant 400 in place.

Referring to FIG. 19, a one-piece dental implant 401 has exterior, porous threads 403 and the same or similar general structure as that of implant 400 (FIG. 18) except that it further includes an abutment section 405, as with implant 301 (FIG. 17), that is integral to a non-porous strengthening collar 407 and/or non-porous core 409, if present. It would be understood that the abutment section 405 could also be made integral to the porous threads 403.

It will also be understood that the short and wide implants 300, 301, 400, and 401 may take advantage of many of the design elements from any of the other implants described herein and vice-versa. For instance, it will be appreciated that the body 302 or 402 may include at least one reinforcing member extending through the porous metal portion, as disclosed with implant 200 (FIG. 13).

Turning to FIGS. 21-23, in another aspect of the implants, an implant body 600 has a generally cylindrical shape and includes an axially extending core 602, which can be made of a suitable biocompatible material as mentioned above, such as titanium, and may be attached to a head, abutment connector, or abutment portion of the implant as also described above. Here, however, the core 602 has a plurality of radially extending ribs 604, and separate porous bodies or sectors 606, formed of porous material as described above. The porous material is disposed between the ribs 604, extends radially to contact bone, and is attached to the core 602 as described above for the other implants.

A cylindrical outer surface 608 of the implant body 600 is formed by alternating distal surfaces 610 of the ribs 604 and surfaces 612 of the porous sectors 606 such that, in one form, the porous material extends less-than the full circumference around the implant body 600. In the illustrated form, the porous sectors 606 and ribs 604 extend from a coronal end portion 614 to an apical end portion 616 of the implant body 600, but this need not always be the case (e.g., the ribs or porous portion could stop short of the other of the porous portion and ribs in the coronal-apical direction). Similarly, while four porous sectors 606 are shown to be placed between four ribs 604, more or less ribs and separate porous sectors may be used.

Many other variations with a ribbed core are also contemplated. For example, the porous sectors 606 may not be entirely separated from each other, and may be linked together by one or more grooves 618 (shown in dashed line on FIG. 22) on the outer surface 610 of one or more of the ribs 604. Porous bridges may link adjacent porous sectors 606 through apertures 620 (also shown as dashed line on FIG. 22) in the ribs 604. Referring to FIG. 23, as yet another alternative, instead of ribs extending to the outer surface of the implant body 600, a core 622 may be provided with ribs 624 that extend short of the full diameter of the implant body 600. In this case, all, or an axial portion (in the coronal-apical direction), of one or more ribs 624 may be entirely buried within one or more porous bodies 626.

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While the illustrated examples are dental implants, it will be understood that such structure, with bone-embedded sections of porous material such as porous metal or porous tantalum that have heights about the same as its width, or that have any of the other structures described herein, may be applied to implants for anywhere on an animal or human body.

While this invention may have been described as having a preferred design, the present invention can be further modified within the spirit and scope of this disclosure. This application is therefore intended to cover any variations, uses, or adaptations of the invention using its general principles. Further, this application is intended to cover such departures from the present disclosure as come within known or customary practice in the art to which this invention pertains and which fall within the limits of the appended claims.

What is claimed is:

1. A dental implant, comprising:

a body including:

a core formed from a biocompatible material, the core defining a coronally accessible internal bore having an internally threaded surface for connection to a separate abutment;

a reinforcing collar integral with the core, the reinforcing collar formed from the biocompatible material and configured for receiving mastication forces, the reinforcing collar defining an opening of the coronally accessible internal bore; and

a porous metal layer including a first porous metal formed on at least a portion of the core for engaging bone, the porous metal layer having an outer apical to coronal height of about 4 mm to about 6 mm and defining a body outer diameter of about 4 mm to about 6 mm, wherein the first porous metal and the biocompatible material comprise different materials.

2. The dental implant of claim 1, wherein the outer apical to coronal height and the body outer diameter are approximately the same.

3. The dental implant of claim 1, wherein the outer apical to coronal height and body outer diameter are both approximately 6 mm.

4. The dental implant of claim 1, wherein the porous metal layer covers a majority of the body.

5. The dental implant of claim 1, wherein the implant generally defines a full circumference, and wherein the porous metal layer covers less than the full circumference of the implant.

6. The dental implant of claim 1, further comprising a resorbable material filling at least a portion of the porous metal layer.

7. The dental implant of claim 1, wherein the porous metal layer forms a sleeve covering the core.

8. The dental implant of claim 1, wherein the first porous metal includes tantalum.

9. The dental implant of claim 1, wherein the body further comprises a head portion with an abutment interface for connection to the separate abutment.

10. The dental implant of claim 9, wherein the abutment interface includes an anti-rotational surface.

11. The dental implant of claim 1, wherein the internally threaded surface of the bore is formed at least partially from a second porous metal.

12. The dental implant of claim 1, wherein the reinforcing collar further comprises a less than entirely smooth exterior surface to promote bone growth against the exterior surface.