



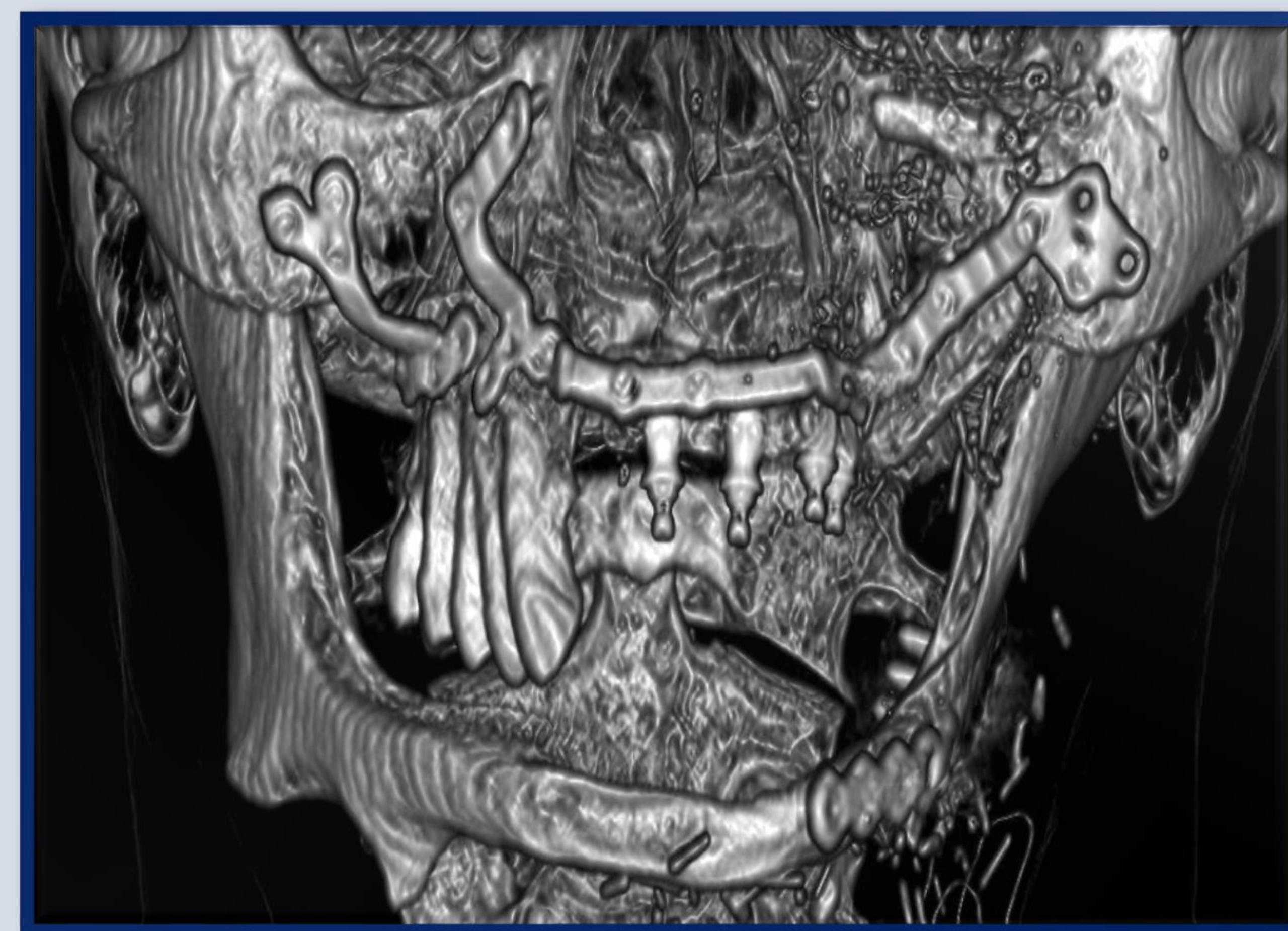
# Dental Implantation Rates in Fibula Free Flaps at the Largest Military Training Facility



Primary and secondary dental Implantation are both safe and effective ways for dental rehabilitation following fibula free flap reconstruction.



# of Patients	15
# of Reconstructions	16
Years	2010–2022
Primary Implants	10
Secondary Implants	5
Teeth Implanted	49
Explantation	0
Complications in Primary Implants	7
Complications in Secondary Implants	0



## PRIMARY

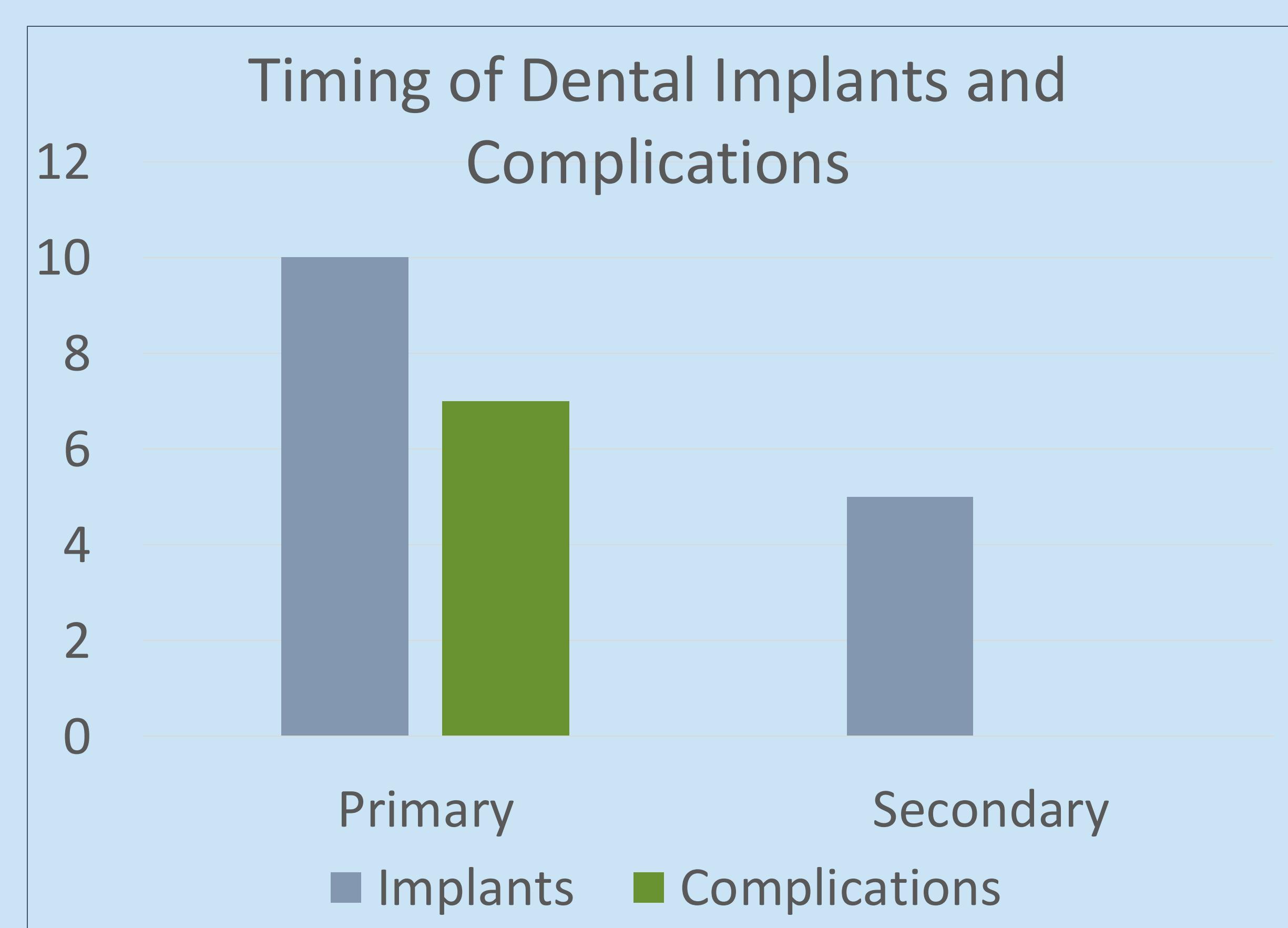


Implants completed at the time of the initial reconstruction

## SECONDARY



Implants completed in a delayed fashion after the initial reconstruction



**METHODS:** This is a single institution retrospective review of fibular free flap reconstruction of head and neck defects completed within the last 12 years (2010 - 2022) at the Department of Defense's largest training facility, San Antonio Uniformed Services Health Education Consortium (SAUSHEC). Primary data points examined were timing of dental implantation, primary v secondary, and rates of complications associated with the dental implantation.

**RESULTS:** 15 patients underwent 16 fibular free flap reconstruction with dental implantation. Dental implantation did not occur prior to 2017 and within those 6 years, 10 implants were completed primarily and 5 were completed secondarily. Among the documented 49 teeth that were implanted, no implants required explantation. Seven patients had minor complications associated with their implants including exposed bone and mucositis. Among the reported complications, all were from primary dental implantation patients.

Alex S. Luke, MD<sup>1</sup>; Erica Rich, MD<sup>1</sup>; Gregory Kelts, MD<sup>1</sup>; Jon Robitschek, MD<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Department of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery San Antonio Uniformed Services Health Education Consortium