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## Dentistry — Designation system for dental implants

*Médecine bucco-dentaire — Système de désignation pour les  
implants dentaires*

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## Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see [www.iso.org/directives](http://www.iso.org/directives)).

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights. Details of any patent rights identified during the development of the document will be in the Introduction and/or on the ISO list of patent declarations received (see [www.iso.org/patents](http://www.iso.org/patents)).

Any trade name used in this document is information given for the convenience of users and does not constitute an endorsement.

For an explanation on the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the WTO principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see the following URL: [Foreword - Supplementary information](#)

The committee responsible for this document is ISO/TC 106, *Dentistry*, Subcommittee SC 8, *Dental implants*.

## Introduction

The emergence of dental implant treatment as a viable and widely utilized procedure has created a requirement for a system for indicating the presence and location of such devices within the jaws which is compatible with existing schemes. Dental implant bodies do not have the characteristics of an individual tooth other than those which are acquired by virtue of the restoration(s) which they support. They can, thus, be described as having a location with an implied crown form. In contrast, a designated tooth has a defined form and an implied location. In both cases, this information may be supplemented with additional comments.

A wide range of devices may be implanted in and around the jaws therapeutically, accidentally or for social reasons, many of which are not endosseous dental implants. Given that these form the majority of implants in the oro-facial region and that the over-riding current need of the professions is a standard method of designating their presence and location, a scheme has been developed to meet this requirement. The inclusion of infrequently used implants of other types and in alternative locations would make the system more complex for the potential benefit currently obtained. The possibility of doing so in the future is not however excluded.

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## 1 Scope

This International Standard provides a system for designating the location of an implant body within a jaw, and is intended for use with the scheme described in ISO 3950. It does not in itself indicate whether the device is visible within the oral cavity or the presence of transmucosal components or implant restorations. Since the system describes location but not restoration form, it is not necessary to use the quadrant designation numbers 5 to 8 which are employed when indicating a primary tooth.

This information should be recorded by the responsible clinician in the patient's file and made available to the patient by the clinician(s) who provided the care.

## 2 Normative references

The following documents, in whole or in part, are normatively referenced in this document and are indispensable for its application. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 1942, *Dentistry — Vocabulary*

ISO 3950, *Dentistry — Designation system for teeth and areas of the oral cavity*

ISO 16443, *Dentistry — Vocabulary for dental implants systems and related procedure*

## 3 Terms and definitions

For the purpose of this document, the terms and definitions given in ISO 1942 and ISO 16443 apply.

## 4 Classification, designation and coding

The scheme uses three characters to indicate the location of each implant body with the first two employing a system corresponding to that described in ISO 3950.

In all cases, the following sequence shall be employed.

- Character 1: This is a digit in the range 1 to 4, and indicates implant bodies in the upper right quadrant, upper left quadrant, lower left quadrant or lower right quadrant respectively.

**NOTE** Since the system describes location but not restoration form, it is not necessary to use the quadrant designation numbers 5 to 8 which are employed when indicating a primary tooth.

- Character 2: This is a digit in the range 1 to 8, and indicates the location of an implant body in the defined quadrant in a position analogous to that of a natural tooth.
- Character 3: This is always the character `!' which is used to indicate the presence of an implant body, as opposed to a tooth, at the location indicated by characters 1 and 2.

The characters shall be written without any intervening spaces or punctuation. For example, 36! indicates the presence of a dental implant body in the left mandibular first molar region.

## Bibliography

- [1] ISO 3166-1, *Codes for the representation of names of countries and their subdivisions — Part 1: Country codes*
- [2] ISO 16059, *Dentistry — Required elements for codification used in data exchange*
- [3] ISO 16498, *Dentistry — Minimal dental implant data set for clinical use*
- [4] ISO/TR 13668<sup>1)</sup>, *Digital coding of oral health and care*
- [5] ISO/TR 15599, *Digital codification of dental laboratory procedures*

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1) Withdrawn standard.