

INTERRELATION BETWEEN CHARACTERISTIC PARAMETERS OF COMPLETE DENTURES AND PATIENT SATISFACTION

Maria Bolat 1*, Elena Raluca Baciuc1*, Dan Nicolae Bosînceanu1, Zinovia Surlari2*, Carina Balçoş3, Cosmin Florinel Bida1, Monica Tatarciuc1, Ciocan -Pendefunda Alice Arina2*, Dana Gabriela Budală(Bosînceanu)1*

¹“Gr. T. Popa” U.M.Ph. - Iași, Romania, Faculty of Dentistry, Implantology, Removable Dentures, Dental Technology

²“Gr.T. Popa”U.M.Ph. -Iași, Romania, Faculty of Dentistry, Department of Odontology-Periodontology, Fixed Protheses

³“Gr.T. Popa”U.M.Ph. -Iași, Romania, Faculty of Dentistry, Department of Oral and Dental Prevention

* Corresponding author; Lecturer Dan Nicolae Bosînceanu *e-mail*: dbossu1@gmail.com

* all authors contributed equall

ABSTRACT

Aim of the study. The aim of the study was to analyze the correlation between the degree of satisfaction of patients with complete dentures and the different features of the dentures. **Material and methods.** 38 patients who received the dentures were randomly selected from patients Mihail Kogalniceanu Educational Base who have submitted to the treatment by the specialist. The questionnaire they answered was completed in the presence of the assistant teacher and the details of new dentures were recorded as reported by the patient.

Results. The following results were obtained in 54% of patients were very pleased with the retention of the upper denture and 23% of the patients were very pleased with the retention of the mandible. Color denture base and artificial teeth was the major factor in obtaining a satisfactory aspect of dentures. **Conclusions.** Patients who are treated with dentures face many factors essential for adaptation, acceptance and discomfort while wearing dentures. Studies showed that patient satisfaction was not correlated with quality dentures

Key words: *dentures satisfaction, complete dentures, elderly, denture wearers.*

INTRODUCTION

In recent years, the prevalence of edentation among people aged 65 and over is declining in most of the industrialized world. Prosthetic treatment with dentures is still the first choice of treatment despite the good long-term prognosis of implant overdentures.

(1,2)

Advances in complete dentures techniques were improved over the years, but little attention was paid to the psychological impact on patient after receiving the dentures. Psychological factors can play a role and can provide valuable information for predicting satisfactory outcomes of prosthetic treatment. Several other factors such as chewing and speaking

also contribute to the ultimate success of the treatment (3-5).

Research has shown that the patient's dissatisfaction with the medical services exists and is not an exception. Sometimes, there is a discrepancy between the perceptions of dentists and the expectations of patients. In addition, a small number of patients cannot adapt to dentures and are dissatisfied regardless of the situation. (6-8).

Difficulties related to adaptation are associated with several different factors, related to dentures, patients and oral factors, but the specific factors are not yet entirely clear (9-11).

This study was conducted to evaluate the clinical experience with

complete dentures and predict patient relationship between patient and clinical factors and patient satisfaction with new dentures.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

► Selection of patients:

38 patients who received complete dentures were randomly selected from the patients of the Mihail Kogălniceanu Education Base who came in for specialized treatment.

► exclusion criteria: Patients with complete dentures made elsewhere and who came for rebasing, relining's and repairs. Patients who were already denture wearers having a denture in history, either or only one of them. The selected patients underwent a thorough clinical and intraoral examination. They were informed about the study they will be part of. The questionnaire they answered was completed in the presence of the assistant teacher and the details of new dentures were recorded as reported by the patient. The patient was encouraged to express an honest opinion about the new dentures, and they were assured that the identity would be kept confidential. Once the questionnaire was completed for 38 patients, the answers were grouped as follows: very satisfied, satisfied, relatively satisfied, dissatisfied, completely dissatisfied with the various parameters such as: retention, esthetic, speech, mastication, denture aspect and overall satisfaction.

Of the patients in the total group (38) chosen for the study, 23 were men and 15 were women. Selecting a random sample is the preferred way to avoid getting a biased or unrepresentative sample.

In this study, we avoided the exclusion biases and underrepresentation or overrepresentation by selecting a simple random sample in which all units of the same size had equal chances of being selected.

As a result, the sample presentation model regarding complete dentures experience, health status and age reflects a profile like that described in the literature and commonly encountered in dental offices.

satisfaction, to investigate the possible

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

Following the questionnaire of each patient in the study group, the questions regarding the degree of satisfaction of each patient with the maintenance and stability, the aesthetic aspect of both the base of the denture and the individually chosen teeth, the performance of the chewing function, the degree of polishing, restoration of speech as well as general patient satisfaction have been implemented in a series of graphs, as follows.

Retention of upper dentures: 21 out of 38 patients, ie 54% were very satisfied, 13 out of 38 patients, ie 21% were satisfied, 2 out of 38 patients, ie 9% were relatively satisfied, 1 out of 38 patients, ie 8% were dissatisfied.

Retention of lower dentures: 8 out of 38 patients, ie 23% were very satisfied, 24 out of 38 patients, ie 63% were satisfied, 4 out of 38 patients, ie 10% were relatively satisfied, 2 out of 38 patients, ie 5% were dissatisfied.

Maxillary denture base color results in the study group were: 17 out of 38 patients, ie 45% were very satisfied, 16 out of 38 patients, ie 43% were satisfied, 5 out of 38 patients, ie 13% were relatively satisfied.

Regarding the color of the teeth of the upper dentures the results in the study group were the following: 18 out of 38 patients, ie 48% were very satisfied, 17 out of 38 patients, ie 45% were satisfied, 3 out of 38 patients, ie 8% have been relatively satisfied.

About recovery of physiognomy prior to the edentation, the results in the study group were as follows: 20 out of 38 patients, that is 53% declared themselves very satisfied, 15 out of 38 patients, ie 40% were satisfied, 3 out of 38 patients, ie 8% were relatively satisfied.

Regarding the restoration of speech, the results within the study group were the following: 9 out of 38 patients, ie 25% were very satisfied, 17 out of 38 patients, that is, 43% said they were satisfied, 13 out of 38 patients, ie 33% were relatively satisfied.

Regarding the restoration of the masticatory function results in the study group were the following: 8 out of 38 patients, that is, 22% said they were very satisfied, 16 out of 38 patients, ie 40% were satisfied, 14 out of 38 patients, that is, 35% said they were relatively satisfied, 1 out of 38 patients, ie a percentage of 3% were dissatisfied with the restoration of mastication

Overall satisfaction results in the study group were: 8 out of 38 patients, that is, 22% said they were very satisfied, 16 out of 38 patients, ie 40% were satisfied, 13 out of 38 patients, that is, 35% said they were relatively satisfied, 1 out of 38 patients, ie a percentage of 3% were dissatisfied had generally received previous endodontic treatment before restorations had been placed.

54% of patients were very satisfied with the upper denture retention, and 23% of patients were very satisfied with the retention of the mandible. This reduction is probably since the adhesion insured retention is proportional to the area covered by the dentures. The lower denture has a smaller surface area than the upper one and are therefore subject to a lower retention force.

Color denture base and artificial teeth was the major factor in obtaining a satisfactory aspect of dentures Ellis J et al, in its pilot study reported that there was increasing patient satisfaction with improved aesthetics. Aesthetics has an initial direct impact on patient satisfaction.

The emission of prosthetic sounds placed on a mobile tissue such as the oral mucosa has always been problematic. Dentures, however well adapted it is to be subjected to movement when placed on a mobile base. Therefore, speaking with new dentures is not always satisfactory, at least during the initial period of wearing them.

Mastication is another important function that must be performed with dentures. With natural teeth this function is performed without effort. However, with the new dentures that has just been brought into contact with the unstable mucosa, it is a herculean task to perform a correct and complete chewing.

When interpreting data from the literature, it is necessary to determine the type of parameters used by researchers to evaluate the quality of dental prostheses. For example, Wolff et al. concluded that patient satisfaction with dentures was not associated with the parameters related to the quality of the dentures. This finding contrasts with our findings.

CONCLUSIONS

During the management of a patient, a doctor may be satisfied with the quality of the work performed, but the degree of patient satisfaction determines the success of the treatment. Therefore, patient satisfaction assessment should be a routine part of any practice after treatment is completed. This will contribute to the constant improvement of the quality of the services provided by the medical staff.

Emotional characteristics of the patient should be considered throughout the procedure. We must understand that the success of the dentures depends mainly on the patient's confidence in the dentist and not on the quality of them. Therefore, we need to educate the patient and make him understand that the efficiency of the dentures depends on the state of the alveolar ridge and his attitude.

Constant insurance should be given to institutionalized elderly, as they have emotional problems and need emotional support

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