



EVALUATION OF PATIENT SATISFACTION WITH REMOVABLE DENTURES IN PROSTHODONTIC TREATMENT

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Abstract: *Removable dentures are a common prosthodontic treatment for patients with partial or complete edentulism. Patient satisfaction is a critical outcome measure, reflecting functional efficiency, comfort, esthetics, and overall quality of life. This study aimed to evaluate patient satisfaction with removable dentures in terms of retention, mastication, speech, and esthetic appearance. A cross-sectional survey of 100 patients receiving conventional complete or partial dentures was conducted using structured questionnaires and clinical evaluations. Results indicated that while most patients reported improvements in mastication and esthetics, some experienced discomfort or difficulty in adaptation. Understanding patient perspectives is essential to optimize prosthodontic care and improve treatment outcomes.*

Keywords: *removable dentures, patient satisfaction, prosthodontics, edentulism, quality of life*

Introduction

Prosthodontic treatment with removable dentures remains a widely used approach for restoring oral function and esthetics in edentulous patients. Despite advances in dental materials and techniques, patient satisfaction varies widely due to factors such as fit, stability, comfort, and speech interference. Successful prosthetic rehabilitation not only restores masticatory function but also improves self-esteem and social confidence. Assessing patient satisfaction provides valuable feedback for clinicians to refine denture design, treatment planning, and follow-up care. Studies have shown that patient-centered outcomes are as important as clinical evaluations in determining the overall success of prosthodontic treatment.

Objective

The primary objective of this study was to evaluate patient satisfaction with removable dentures in prosthodontic treatment, focusing on functional performance,



esthetic satisfaction, comfort, and adaptation to the prosthesis. Secondary objectives included identifying factors influencing satisfaction levels and providing recommendations for enhancing patient experience.

Materials and Methods

A total of 100 patients, aged 40–75 years, who received conventional complete or partial removable dentures at the Department of Prosthodontics, were enrolled in this study. Inclusion criteria consisted of patients with edentulism who had been using dentures for at least three months. Exclusion criteria included patients with systemic conditions affecting oral function or cognitive impairments. Data collection involved structured questionnaires covering retention, mastication, speech, comfort, and esthetics, as well as clinical evaluation of denture fit and occlusion. Responses were recorded on a 5-point Likert scale. Statistical analysis was performed using SPSS software to determine correlations between demographic factors and satisfaction scores.

Results

The study revealed that 78% of patients were satisfied with mastication and 85% reported esthetic improvements. Speech difficulties were reported by 32% of participants, while 25% experienced discomfort due to pressure points or poor adaptation. Patients with previous denture experience reported higher satisfaction compared to first-time users. Gender and age did not show statistically significant differences in overall satisfaction, but younger patients tended to be more critical of esthetic outcomes. Clinical evaluations confirmed that most prostheses were adequately fitted, though minor adjustments were needed in 20% of cases.

Discussion

The findings highlight the importance of individualized prosthodontic care and patient education in improving satisfaction with removable dentures. While functional outcomes such as mastication and esthetics were generally positive, adaptation issues underscore the need for careful impression techniques, occlusal adjustments, and follow-up visits. Consistent communication between clinicians and patients regarding expectations and potential limitations of removable dentures can enhance compliance and overall satisfaction. Comparison with previous studies indicates that patient-centered approaches, including pre-treatment counseling and post-insertion adjustments, significantly improve perceived quality of life in denture wearers.

Conclusion



Patient satisfaction with removable dentures in prosthodontic treatment is influenced by functional efficiency, esthetics, comfort, and adaptation period. Most patients reported improvements in masticatory function and appearance, although a subset experienced discomfort and adaptation challenges. Emphasizing individualized care, precise clinical procedures, and ongoing patient support is essential to maximize satisfaction and treatment success. Future research should focus on longitudinal evaluations and the impact of new denture materials and designs on patient-centered outcomes.

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