

Longevity of Prosthodontic Treatment without Glitz

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The longevity of a given prosthesis is an important health concern for the patient. R. Jacob stated that complete denture longevity can be measured in the broadest sense by how long the denture materials remain intact or how long the denture remains well adapted to the tissue. As prosthodontists, we consider occlusion, retention and stability. On the other hand, our patient is more likely to consider comfort and the ability to eat. These two considerations are not always compatible when it comes to diagnosing the demise of a given prosthesis.

In comparison with the success of other functional replacements, the complete denture has been unparalleled in, offering restoration to millions of people throughout the world. Despite the fact that most patients continue to wear their dentures, many do not. Today, prosthodontists, interests are very much focused on implant-supported prosthesis. However, in the public-health context, complete denture prosthodontics remain a relatively simple and inexpensive treatment method, one that offers scope for virtually universal application. This is because today's dentist can offer all edentulous patients two treatment options: complete dentures or implant-supported prosthesis.

The clinical decision should ideally reflect the dentist's knowledge of the selected treatment efficacy and effectiveness, as well as a patient's understanding of treatment risks and cost-effectiveness.

Choosing the best form of therapy is not always a clear-cut decision. Biologic, functional, personality and physical considerations many preclude one option or the other, and admittedly, the complete denture option lends itself to more frequent application than a fixed implant-supported prosthetic one, with costs being a major determinant of patient choice.

The most common types of investigation based on evaluated patient acceptance and function of dentures will be discussed.