

# **ORAL IMPLANTOLOGY**

**- A REVIEW**

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*Loss of teeth and eventual edentulism has been part of the expected course of aging by the general population.*

*It would be inaccurate to state that disease factors such as caries or periodontal disease are the sole causes of patient's becoming edentulous. Research has demonstrated that several non disease factors such as attitude, behaviour, dental attendance, and characteristics of the health care system, do play an important role in the decision to become edentulous. In addition, a significant relationship exists between the edentulous state and low occupational levels. It is therefore reasonable to conclude that edentulism is due to various combinations of cultural and attitudinal determinants, and to the treatment received over the past several years.*

*Rehabilitation of the edentulous patient relies on safe and lasting retention of a prosthesis that provides adequate anatomical and functional restitution. Each patient must receive an individual therapeutic solution, whichever technical modality is preferred whether it is complete dentures, removable partial dentures, fixed partial dentures, crown bridge, over dentures, immediate dentures or single complete dentures opposing natural teeth.*

*Although the patient may adapt well to the artificial denture prosthesis, the decrease in masticatory function, in comparison with that of complete natural dentition has been well documented. Eg: Years of wearing complete dentures leads to progressive bone resorption. The resorptive process decreases*