



**"A QUESTIONNAIRE STUDY ON VARIOUS ASPECTS OF DENTURE
HYGIENE AMONGST DENTAL PROFESSIONALS AND COMPLETE
DENTURE WEARERS"**

By

Dr. RANJITKUMAR CHAURASIA

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Dr. SUJATHA KAMATH
READER



**DEPARTMENT OF PROSTHODONTICS
S.D.M. COLLEGE OF DENTAL SCIENCES & HOSPITAL,
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ABSTRACT

Purpose: Improper care of the dentures can have a detrimental effect on the denture supporting tissues resulting in denture induced stomatitis, angular cheilitis etc. It is the responsibility of the dental professionals to educate the patients regarding denture cleansing strategies in order to maximize complete denture services. Hence an attempt is made to determine the awareness amongst dental professionals and patients regarding the instructions given on frequency, methods and materials used to clean dentures.

Objectives: To determine what is the frequency of cleaning, the materials and methods used for cleaning as advised by dental professionals. To determine the awareness of alternative methods and materials for cleaning dentures amongst the dental professionals. To determine the awareness of various denture cleaning products available on the market amongst dental professionals. To determine the frequency, methods and materials to clean dentures by patients who have used dentures.

Materials and Methods: Two-questionnaires were prepared, one for the patient receiving complete dentures and another for dental professional delivering complete denture treatment. The questionnaire focused on frequency, material and methods used for maintaining complete denture hygiene. Expert validation was carried out by asking ten *in-house Prosthodontists* to answer the questionnaire meant for dental professionals. The answered questionnaires were checked for uniformity of response and suggestion given by the experts was utilized to refine the questionnaire. The refined questionnaire was then used to collect data.

Results: The results of this study showed that most of the patient clean their dentures twice a day. They use regular toothbrush and soap for cleaning denture. Most of them use soap only as an alternative to denture cleaning toothpaste and they consider the teeth to be the most important part of the denture that needs to be kept clean. Most of the dental professional preferred gentle stroke to be used to clean denture, soft bristle brush as an alternative to denture cleaning brush and diluted chlorhexidine solution as an alternative to denture cleaning tablets.

Conclusion: Denture hygiene is very important to maintain good oral and general health. Atleast once all the parts of the denture should be cleaned thoroughly in a day with soft bristles brush using gentle strokes. Combination of the chemical and mechanical methods should be used to make the denture free of biofilm.

Keywords: Material, method, frequency, denture hygiene

