

Characterization in removable prosthodontics: Much promise, some progress and more work needed

Sir,

Completely edentulous severely compromise the efficiency and workability of the masticatory system, which is normally accompanied by several unfavorable aesthetic complications. As most of the prosthodontic rehabilitations are centered on technical skills and clinical judgment expertise, dentists therefore became aware of such a time-dependent relationship between form and functional changes in the masticatory system. The innovation and development of newer dental materials actually depends on the clinical application of the knowledge about the relationship between aesthetics, occlusion, somatognathic system and patient's personalities.^[1,2] Smile is the most distinguished expression, and is the keystone of social interaction and communication. It is the universal welcoming greeting in all cultures and ethnicity. Just as a pleasant smile can act as a potential communication tool, an unpleasing smile can have an equally downbeat

impact. Patients seek out orodental rehabilitation for both functional and aesthetic rationales, the long-term success of which is solely dependent upon healthy verbal conversations regarding functional and aesthetic needs. Such a terrific rehabilitative approach readily avoids future misinterpretation of their pre-edentulous and post-treatment appearances.^[3]

Denture characterization is a method where the character or collective qualities of a person are intentionally introduced and incorporated in the complete denture, either by amendment of teeth or denture bases, to make it appear more natural for that particular person. It is actually needed to furnish the dentures a life-like appearance, to make it appear more natural.^[4] Complete denture characterization is performed primarily by selection, arrangement and modification of artificial teeth, or by tinting the denture bases.

The selection of artificial teeth by a dentist may be based on dentogenic concepts of age, personality and sex, but patients may wish to have teeth by his/her own desire, especially those that look lighter. Although the dental profession seeks to rationally restore the lost dentition, the prosthetic teeth are smaller in size and lighter in color than the range of the natural dentition perceived universally. Patient's smile can appear more sensible with intentionally introduced wear, restorations, overlapping to their teeth. Anterior teeth characterization frequently offer outstanding pragmatic effects that make the patient's smile look as if it is enamel, dentin and gingival. Whenever possible, denture characterization must be performed according to the particular patient, rather than doing a 32 pearl-like arrangement of artificial teeth with a twinkling, plane sheet of acrylic resin denture base that quickly reveals it to be false and non-natural.

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