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Esthetic guidelines in completely edentulous elderly patients

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Facial appearance is of great concern to everyone as it is a significant part of the self image. In an economically, socially, and sexually competitive world, an attractive and pleasing look is a necessity. Mouth is an expressive and dominant feature of the face, by virtue of its size, mobility and the psychic association with which it is involved. The most influential factors contributing to a harmonious anterior dentition are the size, shape, and arrangement of the maxillary anterior teeth. Esthetics goes much further than the simple placement of teeth in occlusion rims. The dentist must consider both the anatomy and physiology of the face, as well as artistic principles, to achieve a natural looking denture. Depending on the patient's expectations and the expertise of the dental practitioner, many factors are to be considered in the restoration of anterior teeth. Some common principles are used regarding esthetic features of teeth forms, such as gender characteristics and tooth, arch, and face form correlation. Several anatomic measurements have been proposed to aid in determining the correct size of the anterior teeth. A study was planned to evaluate the correlation between various facial landmarks like interpupillary distance, intercanthal width, bizygomatic width and interalar width with intercanine distance in young adult group of subjects so that the mesiodistal width of the maxillary anterior teeth during selection of teeth in edentulous subjects can be predicted in absence of natural teeth. Undoubtedly for elderly patients function is more important but in modern time establishing esthetics along with functional parameter is considered to be of paramount importance in the success of denture prosthesis.

Biography

Shuchi has completed her MDS. Prosthodontics in 2008 and presently working as Assistant Professor in K.G.M.U., Lucknow, India. Till now she has got around 18 articles published in reputed journals and also serving as reviewer and editorial board member in various journals.

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