

## Fixed dentures: Is that a reality? The use of fixed detachable hybrid implant prosthesis

Khaldoon Abu Afifeh  
Islamic Hospital, Jordan

Treatment of the edentulous patients poses a number of challenges. Implant supported cantilever prostheses, also known as hybrids; have been described in the dental literature as one of the different modalities to treat edentulous patients.

Implant supported fixed dentures are a way to replace teeth when all or most of the teeth are missing on the upper or lower jaw. This type of prosthesis is sometimes used when a patient cannot tolerate the palate being completely covered. It is more comfortable with less material in the mouth. Many times hybrid prosthesis can be used to solve problems of poor treatment planning or cases where advanced surgical procedures are indicated. Hybrid prosthesis is developed by attaching denture teeth with heat-polym-erized acrylic resin to a cast metal substructure. A fixed-detachable den-ture or hybrid is called that because as far as the patient is concerned, it is fixed but can also be detached by the dentist by unscrewing the prosthesis from the implants.

The chewing power of this denture is much greater than a conventional denture. It is equal to the chewing power of natural teeth. Increased stability, retention and the cost-effectiveness of placing fewer implants represent the main advantages of hybrid prostheses. Although this technique solves many clinical scenarios, it does have shortcomings. Much concern still exists regarding the com-plications associated with this type of rehabilitation especially regarding oral hygiene.

Khaldoon73@yahoo.com