



Dental Procedure Information

Denture

Introduction

A denture is a removable set of false teeth that is used to replace missing teeth in the mouth.



Types: 1. Complete denture

- To replace all teeth in a dental arch.
- A complete denture is held in the dental arch by the oral musculature; hence the denture must fit the oral mucosa well.
- A complete denture can be placed over dental implants by screw attachment devices.

Materials:

- The denture base can be made of acrylic polymers or gold alloy.
- The false teeth on the denture base can be made of acrylic or porcelain.

2. Partial denture

- To replace some missing teeth in a dental arch.
- The denture is stabilized in the mouth by metal clasps which extend from the denture base, holding onto the natural teeth.
- A partial denture can also be held by screw attachment devices to implants.

Materials:

- The denture base can be made of acrylic polymer, cobalt chromium or stainless steel.
- The false teeth can be made of acrylic or porcelain.

Outcomes

The purposes of this procedure are to restore chewing function and help articulation. Also, it can help to restore a normal facial profile and correct abnormal bite for edentulous patient.

Procedures

1. Some of the natural teeth need to be slightly prepared by judicious grinding to suit the denture design.
2. Impressions of the upper and lower dental arches are taken and the bite registration is recorded.
3. The metallic frame of the denture is fabricated in the dental laboratory, and the false teeth are fixed onto the frame by wax.
4. The denture frame is tried in the patient's mouth and adjustments are made accordingly.
5. The denture is processed and finished in the dental laboratory.
6. The finished denture is inserted in the mouth and adjustments are made accordingly.

Pre-procedure Preparations

The doctor will explain the reason, the procedure and the possible complications to you.

Points to note about wearing dentures

1. Initially it may be difficult to get use to a new denture, but you will soon be accustomed to it after wearing it for a period of time.
2. During the first few months of wearing denture, it may affect the pronunciation. However, after wearing a period of time, the condition will be improved.
3. A new denture may be uncomfortable to wear within the first 6 months. It is not unusual to require some adjustments on the new denture.
4. Since oral conditions may change with time, a denture may gradually become loose and unfit. Therefore, an oral check-up should be done at least once a year so that the dentist can adjust the denture according to the oral condition.
5. Please keep the teeth and denture clean, in order to reduce the chance of getting caries and gum disease.

Denture Care

1. Denture(s) should be cleaned with tap or room temperature water after each meal.
2. Clean the denture(s) in soap water with a soft bristle toothbrush (toothpaste, abrasive or corrosive cleaners should not be used).
3. Always clean and brush your teeth thoroughly before inserting the denture(s).
4. Never wear your denture(s) during sleep.
5. Always immerse the denture(s) in clean tap or room temperature water or denture cleanser solution when not in use. Never immerse the denture in hot water or corrosive cleaners.
6. Broken or cracked dentures should be returned to your dental surgeon for repair.
7. It is important to have dental check up regularly. Fail to do so may result in damage of the oral tissue and shorten the life span of the denture(s) due to the deteriorating fit of the dentures.

Should there be any enquiries or concerns, please consult the dentist.

Under the professional care of the dentist, you will gradually recover. We wish you all the best during your treatment and recovery.

If you have any questions after reading the entire leaflet, please write them down in the spaces provided in order for the dentist to further follow-up.

Compiled by Union Hospital Operating Theatre (OT) Governance Committee

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