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Literature Abstract

A retrospective comparison of two definitive impression techniques and their associated post-insertion adjustments in complete denture prosthodontics.

The definitive impression technique is reportedly one of the more critical elements in complete denture prosthodontics. This study compared the number of postinsertion adjustments needed by edentulous patients who had complete dentures fabricated using a modified technique in a retrospective analysis of patients in a private practice setting. Seventy-eight edentulous patients were treated with the traditional technique involving custom light-polymerized impression trays. The impression technique was border molded with modeling plastic impression compound. Another 78 edentulous patients were treated with the modified impression technique involving custom light-polymerized impression trays border molded with heavy polyvinyl siloxane impression material. All definitive impressions were made with light-body polyvinyl siloxane. Patients were followed for 1 year after insertion of complete dentures. Postinsertion adjustments to complete denture flanges were quantified by the number of postinsertion appointments required for 1 year after insertion. The mean number of adjustment visits was 2.68 for both groups; there was no significant difference in the number of adjustments required for patients whose dentures were made with either technique. The author did not conclude that either technique should be taken as the definitive method of fabricating complete denture impressions because of several limitations in the study design.

Drago CJ. *J Prosthodont* 2003;12:192–197. **References:** 30. **Reprints:** Dr Carl J. Drago, Gundersen Lutheran Medical Center, 1836 South Avenue, LaCrosse, Wisconsin 54601. e-mail: cjdrago@gundluth.org—Myung W. Brian Chang, Lincoln, Nebraska

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