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Xerostomia in patients with removable partial dentures

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Purpose: The objective of this study was to determine the prevalence of xerostomia among patients attending the dental clinic of Prosthodontics for provision of partial dentures and to investigate the oral cleanliness in those patients.

Materials and Methods: 600 patients (263 men and 337 women) attending the undergraduate clinic were included in this study. These patients reported dry mouth. They completed a questionnaire concerning medical history and information related to xerostomia. Dryness of the mouth was determined by clinical observation. Oral and denture cleanliness was determined using the Modified Debris index.

Results: 120 patients had xerostomia. Oral cleanliness was generally poor.

Conclusion: There was a prevalence of xerostomia in the patient population. A high

proportion of subjects had poor oral cleanliness (OR:6.0, 95% confidence interval: 3.05 to 11.81, P<0.00010). The oral hygiene of the patients with both subjective xerostomia was generally poor.

Biography

Fotoula Nikolopoulou has been graduated from from the Dental School of the University of Athens in 1979. She has been graduated from the Medical School of the University of Athens. She got her PhD from the Dental School of the University of Athens in 1994. She has worked as a lecturer at the department of Prosthodontics of the Dental of Athens in 1995. She has done her Residency Program and Implantology, in the School of Dental Medicine, of the University of Pittsburgh during 2002-2003. She got her Master's degree in Public Health from the Univesrity of Pittsburgh in 2004. She has been working as an Assistant Professor at the department of Prosthodontics of Dental School, of the University of Athens from 2008.

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