Title:
“Tooth Loss, Complete Edentulism and Co-morbid factors: An update”

Description:
Periodontal disease has been implicated in a multitude of co-morbid conditions. In addition, a 2009 report by this presenter evaluated the relationship between complete edentulism and general systemic disease conditions. This presentation will be an update of the literature since 2008 on the relationship between tooth loss, complete edentulism and other co-morbidities. These co-morbid conditions include respiratory diseases, cardiovascular diseases, declining cognitive function, nutritional deficiencies, various types of cancers, and even death. The presentation will attempt to answer the question: “Is there a cause and effect relationship between loss of the natural dentition and specific systemic diseases”?

Learning Objectives:
1. To understand how tooth loss can significantly influence the patients nutritional status
2. To understand how tooth loss can be related to several major systemic diseases.
3. To understand the necessity for maintaining the natural dentition as long as possible, to improve the general health of the patient

Biography:
Dr. David Felton completed his DDS (’77) and MS (’84) degrees at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He joined the UNC School of Dentistry faculty in 1984, where he served until 2011. He was Graduate Prosthodontics Program Director (1990-’93, 2001), and Chair of Prosthodontics (1992-2002), at UNC. He became a Diplomate of the American Board of Prosthodontics in 1996, and served as President of the American College of Prosthodontists (2001-02). Professor Felton has served as Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Prosthodontics since 2003. In August, 2011, he became Dean of the West Virginia University School of Dentistry, a position he held until 2014. He was elected as an examiner to the American Board of Prosthodontics in 2012, and now serves as Secretary-treasurer. Dr. Felton is the President-elect of the Academy of Prosthodontics, and has lectured nationally and internationally. He has authored nearly 50 peer-reviewed journal articles, and holds memberships in multiple dental organizations.