



Academy of Prosthodontics 2019 Annual Scientific Session Fairmont Banff Springs Hotel, Banff Canada May 29 – June 1, 2019

Program Speaker - Frauke Müller

Title

The Night Life of a Removable Prosthesis

Abstract

Wear or not to wear a removable prosthesis during the night – that is here the question. A general recommendation valid for all patients seems difficult, given the complexity of the arguments for and against nocturnal denture wearing. For some patients the pure thought of being seen without their “teeth” is a psychological nightmare, especially when seen by their partner or any other public. Yet there are some advantages of not wearing the dentures: the denture bearing tissues are temporarily relieved from the permanent coverage and the bacterial load from the denture resin is removed. Nocturnal denture wearers present a 2.3 fold risk to die from aspiration pneumonia, with swallowing disorders and poor oral hygiene being the main other risk factors. On the other hand, avoiding overclosure of the mandible may be important to prevent craniomandibular dysfunction, injury from the antagonistic dentition or obstructive sleep apnea syndrome. The presently available evidence rather recommends to the removable prosthesis to go out at night.

Learning Objectives

1. Associating oral hygiene / nocturnal denture wearing with the incidence of aspiration pneumonia
2. Understanding the psychological and physiological implications of nocturnal denture wearing
3. Being able to tailor individual clinical recommendations according to the patient’s preferences and medical context

Biography

FRAUKE MÜLLER

Frauke Müller is Professor and Chair for gerodontology and removable prosthodontics of the University clinics of dental medicine at the University of Geneva, Switzerland. Frauke Müller graduated in Germany and spent several years at the London Hospital Medical College, England. She served as President for several learned societies: *European College of Gerodontology (ECG)*, *Swiss Society for Gerodontology and Special Care Dentistry (SSGS)* the Geriatric Oral Research Group (GORG) and Prosthodontics Group of the IADR. Frauke Müller is Associate Editor of *Gerodontology*. She edited the textbook “Oral Healthcare and The Frail Elder” and co-authored the ITI Treatment Guide “Implant therapy in the Geriatric Patient”. In 2013 she was awarded the IADR Distinguished Scientist Award in Geriatric Oral Research. Her research activity is mainly related to gerodontology, oral function as well as complete and implant prosthodontics.