

Shortened dental arch concept: Investigation of the quality of written prescription by dentists to dental technicians in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia**Manal R Alammari**

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The aim of this study was to review and evaluate quality of communication, instructions and prosthodontic prescription given to profitable and governmental dental laboratories by general dentists, restorative dentists and prosthodontists for shortened dental arch (SDA) cases in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia. Over the period of 6 months, a cross-sectional survey with self-designed-structured questionnaires was conducted. A survey of the main 5 governmental and private dental laboratories was conducted. 200 questionnaires were filled by an interview and case discussion with each dental lab technician who received a case for SDA was done. A sample size of 200 male dental technicians was interviewed. 91% of them were not Saudi. In addition, 25.5% had an experience for more than 25 year. 67.5% of dental technicians were working in private laboratories. Most of the cases received (76%) were for lower arch. The most treatment option that was selected by dentists was Co-Cr RPD 86.5%. The majority of the cobalt chromium RPD cases (64.2%) had instruction form without mentioning the clasp material. The most common major connector selected for the lower arch cases 55.5% was lingual bar and a U-shaped major connector in upper. It would appear from the results of this survey that amid the different restorative treatment choices for SDA, Co-Cr RPDs are the most common. The prescribing dentist's signature, clasps' material and date the prosthetic work required were the most frequently absent sections of information. Recommendations for improved communication, clear, complete and signed prosthodontics laboratory form are better for patient service.

Biography

Manal R Alammari has completed her PhD from the University of Liverpool and Post-doctoral studies from Liverpool University Dental Hospital. She is Coordinator of Saudi Board Examination Committee and Member of the Strategic Plan in the Dental College. She has published more than 20 papers in reputed journals and has been serving as an Editorial Board Member in three journals.

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