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Fixed & removable prosthodontics in the rehabilitation of the worn and/or depleted dentition

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Demographic surveys of post-industrial societies show a continual decline in the overall rates of edentulousness with an increased rate of tooth retention, although tooth loss ranging from one to many teeth is still a common occurrence. The primary causes of tooth loss are caries, periodontal disease or trauma and this tendency of gradual tooth loss increases with age. Counterpointed against tooth loss are varying levels of tooth tissue loss due to para-functional activities (bruxism), abrasion, attrition and/or erosion coupled to differential levels of tooth over-eruption, tilting and/or dento-alveolar compensation. Osseo-integrated implants may be seen as a gold standard treatment for the rehabilitation of missing teeth but their costs, need for surgical intervention and on-going maintenance requirements to minimize peri-implant disease can preclude this treatment option from many of our patients. It is here that conventional and particularly adhesively retained fixed partial dentures (bridges), possibly in combination with removable partial dentures and adhesive restorations still provides valuable treatment options for our patients with worn and/or depleted dentitions. The use of the re-organization approach to the worn and/or depleted dentition will be compared and contrasted against the use of the confirmative approach. Clinical examples will be used to highlight techniques and taken from clinical practice, under-graduate & post-graduate clinical teaching. The research evidence will be presented as the underpinning foundations for a methodical approach to the clinical management & importantly the biological costs of the different treatment options for each of the prosthodontic options chosen in replacing missing teeth.

Biography

Paul F Gregory has completed his graduation from University of Leeds, School of Dentistry in 1981 and spent 24 years in General Dental Practice. In 2005, he started full-time Teaching at University of Sheffield, School of Clinical Dentistry and passed his mono-specialty qualification in Prosthodontics at Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh in late 2007. In 2008, he was registered with General Dental Council, UK as a Specialist in Prosthodontics and returned to University of Leeds to teach undergraduate and postgraduate students. In 2011, he was promoted as a Senior Clinical Teaching Fellow in Restorative Dentistry and in 2012; he became Program Manager of the two Masters in Clinical Dentistry Post-graduate distance learning courses (Implant Dentistry & Restorative Dentistry).

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