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Xerostomia in complete denture wearers: Prevalence, clinical findings and impact on oral functions

Objectives: To investigate the prevalence of dry mouth in a select sample of edentulous Jordanian older population wearing complete dentures and to evaluate its impact on oral functions.

Background: The prevalence and impact of Xerostomia as a cofactor in causing denture problems in Jordanians have not been previously investigated.

Materials and methods: This study included 455 participants (253 men and 202 women). Perception of dry mouth was measured by a pilot-tested questionnaire. Xerostomic status was confirmed clinically. Complete denture function was also assessed.

Results: One hundred and thirty six subjects (29.9%) had reported a subjective feeling of dry mouth with a prevalence of 24.9% in men (n = 63) and 36.1% in women (n = 73) (p < 0.01). 136 of the 145 subjects with satisfactory dentures showed one or more signs suggestive of Xerostomia. The majority of xerostomic participants with different sets of complete dentures were dissatisfied with oral functions (p < 0.05). There was a significant association between dry mouth and increasing age, female gender and smoking status (p < 0.05).

Conclusion: Among complete denture wearers, Xerostomia is significantly more prevalent in women and associated with increased age and smoking. Xerostomia adversely affects oral functions and overall satisfaction with dentures.

Keywords: complete denture, oral function, saliva.

Biography

Ziad N Al-Dwairi works as an Associate Professor of Fixed and Removable Prosthodontics and Implant Dentistry at Jordan University of Science and Technology and pursued his PhD in Prosthodontics from Queens University/ Belfast, UK in 2001 and Fellowship of The International Academy of Dento Facial Esthetics (FIAD-FE) in 2012. He is the President of Jordanian Section of International Association for Dental Research.

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