

The Prosthetic Treatment on Oral Candidiasis

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Oral candidiasis is known as an infection that not only causes various oral symptoms but also affects the entire body. Since salivary flow is involved, we investigated whether the improvement of salivary flow by denture treatment could counteract the symptoms of oral candidiasis.

The study population consisted of 46 denture- wearing patients (mean age: 74.8 ± 2.2 years) who were examined at Kanagawa Dental University Hospital. We tested Candida, salivary flow measurement, oral symptom confirmation, and masticatory performance, and conducted denture treatment. We compared test results with measurements taken after completion of the denture treatment.

The individuals in whom candida was present exhibited significantly decreased salivary flow during both rest and stimulation. In addition, they exhibited several oral symptoms along with decreased masticatory performance. However, after completion of denture treatment, all test items improved and the causative organism disappeared. Patients in whom candida was

present exhibited several oral symptoms, likely because poorly fitting dentures led to decreased masticatory performance; thus, decreasing the salivary flow. Denture treatment led to improved salivary flow, decreased levels of candida, and the disappearance of oral symptoms. These results suggest that denture treatment could be a means of treating oral candidiasis that is thought to be caused by masticatory dysfunction due to poorly fitting dentures.

In many cases, dentists try to manage denture pain by adjusting dentures. However, some patients complain of oral discomfort over a long period even after appropriate denture adjustments. In some of these situations, simple denture adjustment does not alleviate the discomfort of these patients. It is known that denture stomatitis may occur in response to plaque accumulation on dentures. One of the chief pathogenic microorganisms causing this type of inflammation is Candida albicans. A common symptom of oral candidiasis is pain in the oral mucosa complicated by angular stomatitis. In this paper, we report a case of oral candidiasis that was diagnosed and managed based on the patient's complaints.

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