

Title: Complete dentures 2023: Fully digital?

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Abstract

Rehabilitation of completely edentulous jaws with conventional removable complete dentures (CDs) is a well-established treatment protocol and over half a century, the conventional flask-pack-press or compression molding method has been used to fabricate removable complete dentures. However, these traditional methods have undergone a remarkable transformation in the recent years following the introduction of computer-aided design and computer-aided manufacturing (CAD-CAM) procedures for CDs.

Fabrication of CDs using the CAD/CAM technology had been first reported in the early 90's, but only in the last decade has this technique gained an exponential popularity. The incorporation of CAD-CAM in the complete denture fabrication has changed the laboratory processes as well as modified the conventional clinical protocols. The new CAD-CAM protocols have considerably decreased the treatment burden to the patient, by effectively reducing the treatment time, number of clinical visits, and costs. The CAD-CAM dentures offer numerous advantages including better retention, mechanical- and surface properties but, most importantly, by preserving a digital record. The current lecture aims to provide an overview of the current status in the evolution of CAD-CAM digital dentures.