

Prosthetic Management of Flabby Hyperplastic Edentulous Ridge Tissue Using Different Clinical Impression Techniques – A Critique Case Series

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Abstract

Flabby tissue is not an uncommon occurrence, especially in old denture wearers with a misfit denture. Frequent denture movements during function initiates a hyperplastic tissue reaction and thus the tissue grows. As the tissue grows further away from the bone, it loses its resiliency and natural normal clinical characteristics. The tissue no longer becomes suitable to support a prosthesis. Historical approaches in managing such cases have been mainly surgical, till it was realized that the tissue growth is reversible which paved way for conservative prosthetic managements. With the advent of elastomeric impression materials, the techniques became numerous and currently there are many techniques described in the literature. With a background of strong basic sciences, this article in the form of case series reviews four commonly used techniques and discusses the pros and cons of each in the light of applied sciences. Four techniques critically analyzed are the putty relined, palatal splinting, sectional impression and window technique. The basis of this critique is the fundamental physical, rheological and clinically relevant properties of each material used with a particular technique. In the light of recent evidence, different techniques have been analyzed and wherever possible, the preferred material or alternative technique has been mentioned.