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DIPLOMATES OF THE AMERICAN BOARD OF ORAL & MAXILLOFACIAL SURGERY

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The first-choice standard of care for an edentulous mandible

According to the 2003 World Health Organization Global Oral Health Data Bank, 26 percent of people in the United States aged 65 through 69 years will remain edentulous. Although the data regarding the population that is edentulous varies by state, the largest age group affected is older than 65 years (48 percent). As the U.S. population continues to age, various studies have been conducted regarding the oral health of older people. Worldwide, the estimated incidence of edentulism is as low as 9 percent in Canada and as high as 69 percent in Albania. Edentulism can lead to poor dietary choices, resulting in inadequate nutritional intake. Edentulism can be classified as a form of disability, and the results of numerous studies have shown an association between edentulism and systemic conditions such as cardiovascular disease, stroke and

cancer, as well as increased mortality.

In 2002, a symposium was held at McGill University, Montreal, where scientists and expert clinicians gathered to discuss and review the scientific literature and create an evidence based recommendation pertaining to the efficacy of mandibular overdentures used to treat patients who are edentulous. The group's consensus was that IRMODs should be the first-choice standard of care for patients who are edentulous. The same consensus statement was supported at the 2009 annual conference for the British Society for the Study of Prosthetic Dentistry held in York, England. Carpentieri and Tarnow also recommended changing the first-choice standard of care for an edentulous mandible from CDs to IRMODs.

The study was conducted to determine if there is a consensus among U.S. aca-

demically prosthodontic experts regarding an IRMOD's being the first-choice standard care for edentulous mandibles instead of conventional CDs. We defined the "first-choice standard of care" as the preferred treatment option that a clinician should offer for a certain specific clinical circumstance. If the experts were to reach a consensus, we would encourage clinicians to take action to strengthen policies and improve practices that are driven by the best avail-

able evidence and knowledge regarding the treatment of edentulous mandibles.

A delphi method survey was conducted to obtain the opinion of a nationally representative expert panel of U.S. academic prosthodontists regarding what they perceived to be current preferred treatment option for patients with edentulous mandibles—that is, the first-choice

continued on reverse

DENTAL FUN FACT

DID YOU KNOW...

It took two astronauts to replace a power unit on the International Space Station during a spacewalk in September 2012. They improvised tools from spare parts and a toothbrush.
(*Tufts Dental Magazine* Fall 2012 Vol. 16 No. 2)

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Facebook is a social networking website intended to connect friends, family, and business associates. It is the largest of the networking sites, with the runner up

being Myspace. It began as a college networking website and has expanded to include anyone and everyone.

standard of care for treating an edentulous mandible and, thus, comparing an IRMOD with a CD.

The results of the study showed that the panelists agreed with the McGill and York consensus statements that the IRMOD should be a minimal first-choice standard

of care for normal healthy patients who are edentulous, as well as patients who have mild systemic disease and are edentulous. Dentists should be encouraged to at the least advise their edentulous patients about the benefits of this treatment option and provide care or make provisions

for an appropriate referral. On the basis of the results of the study, we also suggest that education regarding the IRMOD should be offered by dental schools to students, as well as in continuing education courses and professional development programs.

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Dr. Brian Simpson
announces the fifteenth meeting of the
NANUET IMPLANT STUDY GROUP

Speaker: Louis Mandel, D.D.S.
Director of the Columbia Presbyterian Medical Center Salivary Gland Center

“Salivary Gland Pathology”

Tuesday, June 25, 2013

Dinner: 6:30 Presentation: 7:00 — 9:00 pm

Restaurant X 117 North Rte. 303 Congers, NY

2 CE credits awarded by the Ninth District Dental Association
Cost: \$45.00

To register, contact Theresa: 845-623-3497
or email her at theresag@drbriansimpson.com

“Everything will be alright in the end. If it's not alright, it's not the end.” -Unknown