



7. MEĐUNARODNI KONGRES
HRVATSKOG DRUŠTVA ZA STOMATOLOŠKU PROTETIKU

Prva digitalna
konferencija
dentalne protetike/
medicine
"Alpe Adrija regija"

16. I 17. SVIBNJA 2025.
SOLIN, HOTEL PRESIDENT

ZBORNİK RADOVA

Book of Abstracts



HRVATSKO DRUŠTVO ZA
STOMATOLOŠKU PROTETIKU

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Nikola Petričević i Robert Ćelić

ZNANSTVENI ODBOR:

Robert Ćelić / Arthur Cortes / Robert Sader / Ali Tahmaseb / Renata Gržić / Nikola Petričević /
Ahmad Al-Hassiny / Venera Bimbashi / Hrvoje Pezo / Žarko Udiljak

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7TH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF THE CROATIAN SOCIETY FOR DENTAL PROSTHODONTICS

The first digital conference of dental prosthodontics/medicine "Alpe Adrija region"

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EDITORS OF THE BOOK OF ABSTRACTS:

Nikola Petričević and Robert Ćelić

SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE:

Robert Ćelić / Arthur Cortes / Robert Sader / Ali Tahmaseb / Renata Gržić / Nikola Petričević /
Ahmad Al-Hassiny / Venera Bimbashi / Hrvoje Pezo / Žarko Udiljak

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SAŽECI
PREDAVANJA

LECTURE
ABSTRACTS

Upotreba digitalne stomatologije i CAD-CAM tehnologije za poboljšanje kliničkih ishoda

Izv. prof. dr. **Arthur Cortes**, Stomatološki fakultet Sveučilišta u Valeti, Malta

SAŽETAK | Tehnologija računalno potpomognutog dizajna i računalno potpomognute proizvodnje (CAD-CAM) razvijala se usporedno s njezinim primjenama u dentalnoj medicini, uključujući nekoliko novih tehnika koje se koriste u oralnoj rehabilitaciji. Ove se tehnike obično razlikuju od konvencionalnih analognih tehnika u načinu na koji se dobivaju otisci (npr. konvencionalni otisci u usporedbi s intraoralnim skeniranjem) ili u načinu na koji se dizajniraju i izrađuju restauracije (npr. konvencionalno modeliranje u vosku i lijevanje u usporedbi s CAD-CAM tehnologijom). Opće prednosti digitalnog radnog procesa koji uključuje CAD-CAM u odnosu na konvencionalni radni proces podrazumijevaju kraće trajanje terapije, kraće trajanje posjeta pacijenta, smanjen nelagodan osjećaj pacijenta, uklanjanje potrebe za gipsanim modelima te bolju predvidljivost ishoda. Još jedna ključna značajka digitalnog radnog procesa je mogućnost spajanja i preklapanja trodimenzionalnih (3D) mreža iz različitih slikovnih pretraga, čime se stvara virtualni pacijent, što omogućuje poboljšano virtualno planiranje terapije i bolju komunikaciju s pacijentima.

Ovo predavanje podijeljeno je u dva dijela. Prvi dio predstaviti će važne koncepte i znanja potrebna za razumijevanje i početak korištenja digitalnog radnog procesa u dijagnostici i planiranju multidisciplinarnog dentalnog liječenja u privatnim stomatološkim ordinacijama i integriranim dentalnim klinikama. Ovaj dio uključuje prednosti, nedostatke, ekonomske aspekte te klinička istraživanja o digitalnoj stomatologiji. Drugi dio predavanja obuhvatit će kliničke slučajeve i strategije za korištenje digitalnog radnog procesa i CAD-CAM tehnologije u poboljšanju predvidljivosti kliničkih ishoda kod pacijenata koji prolaze kroz protetsku oralnu rehabilitaciju, s ili bez dentalnih implantata.

The Use of Digital Dentistry and CAD-CAM Technology for Enhancing Clinical Outcomes

Assoc. Prof. Dr. **Arthur Cortes**, Faculty of Dental Surgery, University of Malta, Valletta, Malta

ABSTRACT | Computer-aided design and computer-aided manufacturing (CAD-CAM) technology has evolved in parallel with its applications in dentistry, including a variety of new techniques for oral rehabilitation. These techniques generally differ from conventional analogue methods either in the way impressions are obtained (e.g. traditional impressions versus intraoral scanning) or in the way restorations are designed and fabricated (e.g. conventional wax modelling and casting versus CAD-CAM fabrication). The general advantages of the digital workflow with CAD-CAM over conventional workflows include reduced treatment time, shorter patient visits, decreased discomfort, elimination of plaster models and better predictability of the outcome. Another key feature of the digital workflow is the ability to merge and overlay three-dimensional (3D) data from various imaging sources to create a virtual patient. This approach enhances digital treatment planning and improves communication with patients. This lecture is divided into two main parts. The first part will introduce the key concepts and knowledge required to understand and apply digital workflows in diagnosis and multidisciplinary treatment planning in both private dental practices and integrated dental clinics. This will include a discussion of the pros and cons, economic considerations and clinical research related to digital dentistry. The second part of the lecture will focus on clinical cases and strategies for utilizing digital workflows and CAD-CAM technology to improve the predictability of clinical outcomes in patients undergoing prosthetic oral rehabilitation with or without dental implants.

Kako je vođena vođena kirurgija? Gdje smo sada?

Prof. dr. **Ali Tahmaseb**, Stomatološki fakultet Sveučilišta u Genku, Belgija

SAŽETAK | Od uvođenja CBCT-a i intraoralnih skenera (IOS) u dentalnu medicinu, vođena implantološka kirurgija stekla je popularnost među dentalnim kliničarima. Brojne poteškoće, poput anatomske ograničenosti i složenih protetskih terapija, mogu se predvidjeti i isplanirati korištenjem ovih inovativnih tehnika. Osim toga, uz precizno poznavanje buduće lokacije implantata, moguće je razmotriti izradu budućih protetskih nadomjestaka prije samog postavljanja implantata. Kako bi se to postiglo, potrebno je riješiti nekoliko ključnih izazova čime se povećava točnost do razine u kojoj izrada finalnih protetskih nadomjestaka postaje realnost. U ovom predavanju bit će predstavljen novi pristup, koji će olakšati ovaj protokol na interaktivan način.

How Guided is Guided Surgery – Where Are We Now?

Prof. Dr. **Ali Tahmaseb**, Faculty of Dentistry, University of Ghent, Belgium

ABSTRACT | Since the introduction of cone-beam computed tomography (CBCT) and intraoral scanners (IOS) in dental medicine, guided implant surgery has gained considerable popularity among dental clinicians. Numerous challenges - such as anatomical constraints and complex prosthetic rehabilitations - can now be anticipated and addressed through the use of these advanced technologies. In addition, with precise planning of the future implant position, the fabrication of the final prosthetic restorations can be considered prior to implant placement. To realize this possibility, several critical challenges must be overcome to increase surgical accuracy to a level where immediate final prosthetic restoration becomes clinically feasible.

This lecture will introduce a novel approach to facilitate this protocol in a simplified and interactive manner.



Digitalna transformacija u dentalnoj medicini: Preciznost, brzina i nova dimenzija planiranja

Izv. prof. dr. **Andreja Carek**, Stomatološki fakultet Sveučilišta u Zagrebu, Hrvatska

SAŽETAK | Digitalne tehnologije mijenjaju lice suvremene dentalne protetike, omogućujući brže planiranje, precizniju dijagnostiku i besprijekornu proizvodnju restorativnih rješenja. Zahvaljujući naprednim alatima za izradu modela, udloga i restauracija te integraciji s 3D ispisom, kliničarima je omogućeno stvaranje personaliziranih rješenja izravno u ordinaciji.

Kombinacijom sofisticirane analitike umjetne inteligencije i naprednih radioloških alata automatski se detektiraju karijes, ispuni, kamenac, implantati i moguće abnormalnosti, pružajući brzu, standardiziranu dijagnostiku. Vizualizacija kroz boje i jasno strukturirani izvještaji pomažu pacijentima da razumiju svoje oralno zdravlje, potičući njihovo povjerenje i angažman.

Ovi digitalni alati stvaraju besprijekoran tijek rada, skraćujući vrijeme terapije i optimizirajući kvalitetu usluge. Fleksibilnost sustava omogućuje kliničarima autonomiju u prilagodbi plana liječenja uz potpunu kontrolu nad procesom.

Digitalna transformacija nije samo tehnološki napredak – ona je ključ za stvaranje dinamične, točne i pacijentu usmjerene dentalne prakse koja donosi vrhunske kliničke rezultate i podiže standarde moderne stomatologije.

Digital Transformation in Dental Medicine: Precision, Speed, and a New Dimension in Treatment Planning

Assoc. Prof. Dr. **Andreja Carek**, School of Dental Medicine, University of Zagreb, Croatia

ABSTRACT | Digital technologies are reshaping the face of modern dental prosthodontics, enabling faster treatment planning, more precise diagnostics and seamless fabrication of restorative solutions. With advanced tools for designing models, splints and restorations, combined with the integration of 3D printing, clinicians are empowered to create personalized solutions directly in the dental office. The combination of sophisticated AI analytics and advanced radiological tools enables the automatic detection of caries, restorations, calculus, implants and potential anomalies, facilitating a rapid and standardised diagnosis. Visual interpretation through colour mapping and structured reports improves patients' understanding of their oral health, boosting confidence and engagement.

These digital tools establish a streamlined clinical workflow that reduces treatment time and optimises the quality of care. The flexibility of the system gives the clinician the ability to customise the treatment plan and control the entire process.

Digital transformation is not merely a technological advancement, but the key to building a dynamic, precise and patient-centred dental practice that delivers excellent clinical outcomes and elevates the standards of modern dentistry.

Mogućnosti primjene umjetne inteligencije u stomatologiji

Prof. dr. **Marin Vodanović**, Stomatološki fakultet Sveučilišta u Zagrebu, Hrvatska

SAŽETAK | Umjetna inteligencija prisutna je već nekoliko desetljeća, no njezina integracija u svakodnevni život relativno je nova pojava. U početku se koristila uglavnom u akademskim i vladinim istraživačkim ustanovama, dok je s razvojem tehnologije pronašla primjenu u industriji, trgovini, medicini i stomatologiji. S obzirom na to da je ubrzan tehnološki napredak, a primjena umjetne inteligencije sve šira, ovo predavanje ima cilj pružiti pregled njezinih mogućnosti u medicini i stomatologiji, s posebnim naglaskom na prednosti i izazove koje donosi. Potencijal umjetne inteligencije u ovim područjima tek se počinje otkrivati. Kao alat budućnosti, umjetna inteligencija igra ključnu ulogu u razvoju medicine i stomatologije, posebice u kontekstu individualizirane zdravstvene skrbi, koja obećava znatno bolje ishode liječenja.

Potential Applications of Artificial Intelligence in Dentistry

Prof. Dr. **Marin Vodanović**, School of Dental Medicine, University of Zagreb, Croatia

ABSTRACT | Artificial intelligence (AI) has been around for several decades, but its integration into everyday life is a relatively recent development. Initially, it was primarily applied in academic and government research institutions, but technological progress has led to its broader implementation in industry, commerce, medicine and dentistry. Considering the rapid pace of technological progress and the expanding scope of AI applications, this presentation aims to provide an overview of the potential of AI in medicine and dentistry, focusing on the benefits and challenges it entails.

The true potential of AI in these fields is only now beginning to emerge. As the tool of the future, artificial intelligence plays a key role in shaping the development of medicine and dentistry, particularly in the context of personalized healthcare, which promises significantly improved treatment outcomes.

Međučeljusni odnosi i okluzija u doba digitalnih tehnologija

Izv. prof. dr. **Ivica Pelivan**, Stomatološki fakultet Sveučilišta u Zagrebu, Hrvatska

SAŽETAK | Napredak digitalnih tehnologija i njihova zastupljenost u ordinacijama dentalne medicine iz dana u dan postaje sve veća. Klasične, konvencionalne, otisne postupke sve više zamjenjuje primjena intraoralnih skenera (IOS). Uporaba IOS-a predstavlja bitan tehnološki napredak u pogledu digitalnih otisnih postupaka te preciznosti dosjeda i rubnog zatvaranja protetskih radova izrađenih na temelju intraoralnog skeniranja. Međutim, iskusan kliničar ili specijalist protetike dentalne medicine zasigurno će se zapitati što se u eri digitalne stomatologije dogodilo s važnom kliničkom fazom – određivanjem međučeljusnih odnosa te posljedičnom okluzijskom preciznošću digitalnim tehnologijama izrađenih protetskih radova. Ovo predavanje dat će pregled recentne znanstvene literature te kroz kliničke primjere dati smjernice kako jednostavnim postupcima implementirati faze određivanja međučeljusnih odnosa u digitalni tijek rada. U predavanju će kritički biti prikazane različite metode određivanja međučeljusnih odnosa u digitalnom okruženju s naglaskom na njihovu pristupačnost, jednostavnost i izvedivost. Osim toga, u predavanju će biti objašnjen i utjecaj različitih analogno-digitalnih i potpuno digitalnih metoda određivanja međučeljusnih odnosa i krenuti donje čeljusti na okluzijsku preciznost te dugotrajnost protetskih radova.

Maxillomandibular Jaw Relations and Occlusion in the Era of Digital Technologies

Assoc. Prof. Dr. **Ivica Pelivan**, School of Dental Medicine, University of Zagreb, Croatia

ABSTRACT | The advancement and daily implementation of digital technologies in dental practices continue to grow rapidly. Traditional impression techniques are increasingly being replaced by the use of intraoral scanners (IOS), representing a significant technological leap in digital impression workflows, as well as in the precision of fit and marginal adaptation of prosthetic restorations fabricated from intraoral scans.

However, an experienced clinician or a dental prosthodontics specialist may rightfully ask what has become of a crucial clinical phase in the digital dentistry era – the registration of intermaxillary relations and the subsequent occlusal accuracy of digitally fabricated prosthetic restorations.

This lecture will present an overview of recent scientific literature and provide clinical guidelines on how to implement intermaxillary relation registration into the digital workflow through simple and accessible procedures. Different methods for recording intermaxillary relations in a digital environment will be critically discussed, with emphasis on their practicality, accessibility, and clinical feasibility. Additionally, the lecture will address the influence of various analog-digital and fully digital methods of intermaxillary registration and mandibular movement tracking on occlusal precision and the long-term success of prosthetic restorations.

Nadolazeća dentalna protetika: inkorporacija umjetne inteligencije i strojnog učenja

Izv. prof. dr. **Venera Bimbashi**, Alma Mater Europaea College, Kampus Rezonanca, Priština, Kosovo

SAŽETAK | Umjetna inteligencija (UI) u dentalnoj medicini više nije samo konceptualna zamisao, nego postaje sve prisutnija pojava u stvarnosti. UI je transformirala i medicinu i dentalnu medicinu, nudeći inovativna rješenja i mijenjajući tradicionalne prakse. Uporabom strojeva koji oponašaju ljudsku inteligenciju, umjetna inteligencija ostvaruje značajan napredak u različitim područjima. Njezino široko prihvaćanje na globalnoj razini svjedoči o promišljenom utjecaju i revolucionarnim inovacijama vođenima inteligencijom.

UI predstavlja prekretnicu u dentalnoj medicini, osobito u stomatološkoj protetici jer omogućuje optimizaciju dizajna protetskih nadomjestaka i izradu funkcionalnih maksilofacijalnih pomagala. Također poboljšava procese kao što su vođenje dokumentacije pacijenta, dijagnostike, planiranja terapije i upravljanja skrbi za pacijente, omogućujući stomatološkim stručnjacima učinkovitiji, a ne nužno na-

Prosthodontics of Forthcoming: Incorporating Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning

Assoc. Prof. Dr. **Venera Bimbashi**, Alma Mater Europaea College, Rezonanca Campus, Pristina, Kosovo

ABSTRACT | Artificial intelligence (AI) in dentistry is no longer a conceptual vision, but a rapidly evolving reality. AI has revolutionized both medicine and dentistry by providing innovative solutions and reshaping traditional practices. With machines capable of replicating intelligent human behaviour, AI is making significant strides in various domains. Its widespread global acceptance testifies to its transformative impact and intelligence-driven innovations.

In dental medicine - particularly in prosthodontics - AI represents a major turning point as it optimises the prosthetic design and fabrication of functional maxillofacial devices. It also enhances processes such as patient documentation, diagnostics, treatment planning and patient management, enabling dental professionals to work more efficiently, rather than harder. Although AI cannot yet replace the clinical expertise of dentists - as dentistry involves not only the diagnosis

porniji rad. Budući da dentalna medicina nije samo dijagnostika bolesti, nego uključuje korelaciju kliničkih nalaza i pružanje sveobuhvatne skrbi pacijentima ne možemo reći da UI može u potpunosti zamijeniti stručnost stomatologa, ali zasigurno može služiti kao moćan alat za unapređenje i optimizaciju dentalnog radnog procesa. Integracija umjetne inteligencije i digitalizacije donijela je novu paradigmu u dentalnoj medicini, nudeći iznimno obećavajuće perspektive. Međutim, ograničena dostupnost preciznih i sveobuhvatnih podataka ostaje jedan od glavnih izazova za široku primjenu UI-a.

Kako bi se taj izazov prevladao, stomatolozi i kliničari moraju dati prioritet prikupljanju i unosu autentičnih podataka u baze podataka, što će služiti kao temelj za potpuno iskorištavanje potencijala umjetne inteligencije u dentalnoj medicini u bliskoj budućnosti. Ovo istraživanje identificira različite primjere primjene umjetne inteligencije u stomatološkoj protetici, zajedno s njezinim ograničenjima i mogućim budućim smjerovima razvoja.

of disease, but also the correlation of clinical findings and comprehensive patient care - it serves as a powerful tool to advance and streamline the dental workflow.

The integration of AI and digitalization has introduced a new paradigm in dentistry, offering highly promising prospects. Nevertheless, the limited availability of accurate and comprehensive data remains one of the primary challenges for a wider implementation of AI.

To overcome this obstacle, dental professionals must prioritise the collection and input of authentic data into databases, forming a critical foundation for fully realising the potential of AI in the near future. This presentation will explore the current applications of AI in prosthodontics, its limitations and possible future directions of development in this field.

Opsežan pregled intraoralnog skeniranja – proizvodi, literatura, digitalni radni procesi i kako prijeći na digitalno

Ahmad Al-Hassiny, dr. med. dent., Privatna dentalna klinika u Wellingtonu, Novi Zeland

SAŽETAK | U ovom predavanju dr. Ahmad Al-Hassiny iz Instituta za digitalnu dentalnu medicinu pružit će potpuni pregled digitalne dentalne medicine i intraoralnih skenera. Započet će s različitim brendovima intraoralnih skenera prikazujući njihove prednosti i nedostatke. Odgovorit će se na pitanja: Jesu li svi skeneri zaista isti i po čemu se najbolji razlikuju od ostalih?

Zatim će raspravljati o različitim digitalnim radnim procesima, o 3D printanju, glodanju, umjetnoj inteligenciji i budućnosti dentalne medicine. Posebna će se pozornost posvetiti recentnoj znanstvenoj literaturi s ciljem razlučivanja između informacija potkrijepljenih dokazima i onih koje su isključivo marketinške naravi, odnosno kako se snaći u buci informacija i donijeti ispravnu odluku pri kupnji opreme za svoju ordinaciju? Koji su ključni kriteriji pri odabiru intraoralnog skenera i kako u potpunosti osigurati povrat ulaganja u svojoj praksi?

Ovo predavanje temelji se na stvarnom iskustvu stomatologa – kliničara s punim radnim vremenom u privatnoj praksi koji je koristio sve poznatije intraoralne skenere dostupne na tržištu, većinu softverskih platformi (CAD) i vodeće 3D printere i glodalice. Ovakvim nepristranim pregledom tržišta kliničari mogu dobiti potpuni uvid u digitalni tijek rada koji je u isto vrijeme klinički učinkovit i ekonomski održiv.

A Comprehensive Overview of Intraoral Scanning – Products, Literature, Digital Workflows, and How to Transition to Digital

Ahmad Al-Hassiny, DDS, Private Dental Clinic, Wellington, New Zealand

ABSTRACT | In this lecture, Dr Ahmad Al-Hassiny, founder of the Institute of Digital Dentistry (iDD), will provide a comprehensive overview of digital dentistry with a focus on intraoral scanners. The session will begin with a detailed comparison of major intraoral scanner brands, outlining their respective advantages and limitations. Are all scanners really the same? What distinguishes the best from the rest?

The presentation will then explore digital workflows, including 3D printing, milling, and the growing role of artificial intelligence in dentistry. Attention will be given to the latest scientific literature - what is supported by evidence and what is driven primarily by marketing? How can clinicians filter through the noise and make informed purchasing decisions for their practice?

Dr Al-Hassiny will share key criteria to consider when selecting an intraoral scanner and strategies to maximize return on investment. The lecture is based on real-world experience of a full-time clinician who has used every major intraoral scanner, most CAD software platforms and leading 3D printers and milling machines.

This unbiased market overview will guide clinicians through the entire digital workflow - from scan to design to production - and help them confidently adopt digital dentistry in a way that is both clinically effective and economically sustainable.

Digitalni recepti

Dejan Lisjak, prim. dr. dent. med., Privatna stomatološka klinika Cerec Centar, Beograd, Srbija

SAŽETAK | S novim tehnologijama stižu i novi protokoli rada. U jednu ruku, zahvaljujući novim tehnologijama i razvoju umjetne inteligencije, čini se kako zubni tehničar postaje nepotreban. Ipak, u isto vrijeme postoji shvaćanje da je svakodnevna suradnja između stomatologa i zubnog tehničara potrebna kao nikada dosad. Ovaj paradoks zapravo znači da postoje digitalni alati, protokoli i postupci za različite indikacije koje primjenjujemo na različit način. Trenutačno ne postoji alat koji je univerzalan za svaku situaciju, kao ni digitalna tehnologija koja će nas učiniti vrhunskim stomatologima. Međutim, sve to skupa pomoći će nam da se bavimo vrhunskom stomatologijom koja nikada nije bila kreativnija, ali u isto vrijeme i zahtjevnija. Nепrestana komunikacija, planiranje i uzajamno praćenje procesa rada, predstavlja 90 % uspješnosti terapije. Digitalni protokoli u stomatološkoj praksi uz rad sa zubnom tehnikom, digitalni protokoli kod izrade protetskih radova u jednom posjetu, digitalni protokoli u implantoprotetici, *ubrzana* u odnosu na *sporu* stomatologiju – opća su stremljenja doktora kliničara ili izbor protokola u odnosu na indikaciju.

I još mnogo *sastojaka* ove *digitalne juhe* omogućuje da se osmisle i razviju vlastiti digitalni recepti koji se svakodnevno isprobavaju i primjenjuju u kliničkoj praksi. Što nas čeka u budućnosti kada je u pitanju digitalna stomatologija? U osobnoj, stalnoj potrazi za idealnim digitalnim receptom kroz šareni svijet digitalne stomatologije, proći ćemo zajedno.

Digital Prescriptions

Dejan Lisjak, DDS, Primarius, Private Dental Clinic Cerec Centar, Belgrade, Serbia

ABSTRACT | With the rise of new technologies, new clinical protocols are also emerging. On the one hand, the advancement of digital systems and artificial intelligence leads to the impression that the role of the dental technician is becoming obsolete. On the other hand, daily collaboration between clinicians and technicians has never been more important. This paradox reflects a deeper truth: there are digital tools, protocols and procedures tailored for various indications, but none of them are universally applicable to all clinical situations. No single technology can replace the clinical expertise required for delivering high-end dentistry.

However, digital workflows support the delivery of top-quality dentistry, which is now more creative and demanding than ever before. Continuous communication, collaborative treatment planning and synchronized process tracking represent up to 90% of therapeutic success. Digital protocols in collaboration with dental laboratories, chairside CAD/CAM workflows, digital protocols in implant prosthodontics and the balance between “fast” and “slow” dentistry reflect the evolving preferences and needs of modern clinicians.

This “digital soup” contains numerous ingredients - tools and techniques that clinicians can mix and adapt to create their own personalized digital protocols, tested and refined in daily clinical practice. What does the future hold for digital dentistry? This lecture offers a journey through the colourful world of digital workflows and shares insights gained in the ongoing search for the ideal digital prescription.

Koncept protetski vođenog oblikovanja periimplantatnog tkiva

Matej Kuliš, dr. dent. med., Privatna dentalna ordinacija u Ljubljani, Slovenija

SAŽETAK | Potpuno digitalni radni proces u implantološkoj stomatologiji neprestano se širi. Razvoj digitalne stomatološke opreme, CBCT naprava, intraoralnih skenera i specijalizirane programske opreme, omogućuje da protetski vođeno postavljanje implantata postane standardni protokol u implantologiji. Ovaj pristup omogućuje optimalno pozicioniranje implantata s protetičkog aspekta, što omogućuje restauraciju implantata s poželjnim oblikom izlaznog profila i estetskim ishodom. Profil gingivalne konture također je iznimno važan za estetiku i zdravlje implantoprotetskog nadomjestka. Poželjno je da profil periimplantatnih tkiva oponaša profil prirodnog zuba.

Tijekom posljednjih godina brojni su se radovi usredotočili na koncept tzv. roze estetike. Većina autora slaže se da postizanje gingivnog profila i visine usprediva s prirodnom denticijom i dalje predstavlja izazov u implantoprotetici. Stoga, kako bi se u potpunosti

The Concept of Prosthetically Driven Peri-Implant Soft Tissue Shaping

Matej Kuliš, DDM, Private Dental Practice, Ljubljana, Slovenia

ABSTRACT | The fully digital workflow in implant dentistry continues to expand. The development of digital dental equipment - CBCT devices, intraoral scanners and specialized software - has enabled prosthetically driven implant placement to become the standard protocol in implantology. This approach facilitates the optimal positioning of implants from a prosthetic point of view so that the restoration can achieve a desirable emergence profile and aesthetic outcome. The contour of the peri-implant soft tissue is also of paramount importance for both the aesthetics and long-term health of implant-supported restorations. Ideally, the profile of the peri-implant tissue should replicate that of a natural tooth.

In recent years, numerous publications have focused on the concept of “pink aesthetics”. Most authors agree that achieving a gingival profile and height comparable to natural dentition remains a challenge in implant prosthetics. In order to fully utilise the benefits



iskoristile prednosti protetski ispravnog položaja implantata, koji se predvidljivo postiže digitalnim radnim procesom, poželjno bi bilo u terapijsku sekvencu uključiti dodatni korak: protetski vođeno oblikovanje periimplantatnog mekog tkiva. Ovaj dodatni postupak omogućuje kontroliranu prilagodbu mekih tkiva unaprijed dizajniranom izlaznom profilu, s ciljem oponašanja prirodne gingivne arhitekture i punog iskorištavanja potencijala digitalno planiranog pozicioniranja implantata za restauracije na implantatima postavljenima u zacjeljena ležišta.

of prosthetically optimal implant positioning - which is predictably achieved using digital workflows - an additional step in the treatment sequence should therefore be considered: prosthetically guided conditioning of the peri-implant soft tissue. This supplementary procedure enables controlled adaptation of the soft tissue to the designed emergence profile and aims to replicate the natural gingival architecture and fully utilize the potential of digitally planned implant positioning for restorations on implants placed in healed sites.

Efekti digitalnog radnog postupka u dentalnoj medicini na razvoj inovativnih tehnologija

Prof. dr. Robert Sader, Stomatološki fakultet Sveučilišta u Frankfurtu, Njemačka

SAŽETAK | Razvoj digitalnog radnog procesa, temeljenog na novim medicinskim 3D uređajima, promijenio je svijet dentalne terapije. Optimizacija ishoda liječenja suočava se s povećanom složenosti radnog procesa, dok su rastući troškovi dodatni popratni učinak. Inovacije nisu donijele samo nove mogućnosti, već i nove probleme i rizike, što dovodi do potrebe za razvojem novih tehnologija ili revitalizacijom starih.

Posljedično, stare tehnike, poput oseofiksacije, mogle bi doživjeti ponovnu primjenu i predstavljati alternativu oseointegraciji. Međutim, ako se nove digitalne tehnologije uspješno kombiniraju s biološkim principima, mogli bi se otvoriti novi terapijski pristupi na dobrobit pacijenata.

Kako bi se ispitali ovi novi potencijali, bit će predstavljeni 3D kirurško planiranje i CAD/CAM tehnologija za izradu pacijentu prilagođenih implantata u dentalnoj implantologiji. Predstaviti će se kako nove digitalne tehnologije izravno vode do kirurških inovacija, uključujući razvoj novih kirurških instrumenata, poput laserske osteotomije, te 3D printanih dentalnih implantata, čime se dodatno poboljšavaju estetski i funkcionalni ishodi terapije.

Na taj način, čak i kod složenih pacijenata koji dosad nisu mogli biti liječeni, implantološke dentalne rehabilitacije postat će izvedive. Sljedeći korak bit će integracija umjetne inteligencije.

The Effects of the Digital Workflow in Dentistry on the Development of Innovative Technologies

Prof. Dr. Robert Sader, Faculty of Dentistry, Goethe University Frankfurt, Germany

ABSTRACT | The advancement of the digital workflow, based on new medical 3D devices, has transformed the landscape of dental therapy. While treatment outcomes are increasingly optimized, the complexity of workflows has also risen, accompanied by escalating costs. These innovations have not only introduced new opportunities, but have also brought new challenges and risks, necessitating the development of new technologies or the revitalization of existing ones. Therefore, previously established techniques such as osseofixation could be revitalised and represent a potential alternative to osseointegration. However, if new digital technologies are successfully integrated with sound biological principles, new therapeutic avenues can emerge for the benefit of patients.

To explore these potentials, the lecture will present 3D surgical planning and CAD/CAM-based manufacturing of patient-specific implants in dental implantology. It will demonstrate how digital technologies directly drive surgical innovation, including the development of new surgical tools such as laser osteotomy and 3D-printed dental implants that further improve both aesthetic and functional treatment outcomes.

This development will allow for implant-based dental rehabilitation in even the most complex cases that were previously considered untreatable. The next logical step is the integration of artificial intelligence into this digital ecosystem

Digitalne tehnologije u dentalnoj implantoprotetici – gdje smo danas?

Dr. sc. **Anja Zembić**, dr. dent. med., Privatna dentalna praksa u Winterthuru, Švicarska

SAŽETAK | Danas su digitalne tehnologije značajno napredovale u dentalnoj medicini te pomažu u poboljšanju učinkovitosti terapije i smanjenju troškova liječenja. Umjetna inteligencija razvija se iznimno brzo i sve više pronalazi primjenu u dentalnoj medicini. No, pridonose li ta poboljšanja postizanju predvidljivih i dugoročno stabilnih kliničkih ishoda?

Zahvaljujući dobro razvijenim postupcima računalno potpomognutog dizajna i proizvodnje (CAD/CAM), razvijeni su poboljšani restaurativni materijali, koji se kreću od hibridnih materijala (kombinacija keramike i smola) do visokoestetskih dentalnih keramika poput ojačanih staklokeramika, pa sve do visokootpornih keramika poput cirkonija. Danas je dostupno više različitih vrsta cirkonija, koje se međusobno razlikuju ne samo po translucenciji nego i po otpornosti na lom. Kliničari često nisu svjesni koji je točno materijal odabrao dentalni tehničar, što može utjecati na ishod terapije. Kako bi se izbjeglo pucanje keramike, restauracije se mogu izrađivati ili s tankim slojem obložne keramike (< 0,5 mm) ili bez obložne keramike, odnosno monolitno. Za povezivanje ovih restauracija s implantatom pretežno se rabe prefabricirane standardizirane nadogradnje poput titanijskih baza.

Ovo predavanje predstaviti će najnovije podatke o različitim poboljšanjima u implantoprotetici te dati preporuke za strukturirani pristup u postizanju predvidljivih rezultata s fiksnim implantoprotetskim radovima u svakodnevnoj kliničkoj praksi.

Digital Technologies in Implant Prosthodontics – Where Are We Today?

Dr. **Anja Zembić**, DDS, PhD, Private Dental Practice, Winterthur, Switzerland

ABSTRACT | Digital technologies have significantly advanced in dentistry, contributing to enhanced treatment efficiency and reduced therapeutic costs. Artificial intelligence is developing rapidly and is increasingly being integrated into dental practice. However, the question remains: do these innovations truly contribute to achieving predictable and long-term stable clinical outcomes?

Thanks to established computer-aided design and manufacturing (CAD/CAM) protocols, restorative materials have been refined - ranging from hybrid materials (ceramic-resin combinations) to highly aesthetic dental ceramics such as reinforced glass ceramics, and high-strength ceramics like zirconia. Today, multiple types of zirconia are available, differing not only in translucency, but also in fracture resistance. Clinicians often do not know exactly which material the dental technician has chosen, which may affect the treatment outcome.

To minimize the risk of ceramic fractures, restorations can be produced either with a minimal veneering ceramic layer (<0.5 mm) or as monolithic restorations without a veneering layer. When connecting these restorations to implants, prefabricated standardized components such as titanium bases are predominantly used.

This lecture will present the latest insights into advancements in implant prosthodontics and provide recommendations for a structured approach aimed at achieving predictable outcomes with fixed implant-supported prostheses in daily clinical practice.

Estetika prirode: od praznog platna do umjetničkog djela

Robert Pongrac, zubni tehničar, Privatni zubotehnički laboratorij u Zagrebu, Hrvatska

SAŽETAK | Bojenje različitih cirkonijskih konstrukcija u stomatologiji nije samo tehnički proces nego i umjetnički čin koji zahtijeva preciznost, estetsku osjetljivost i razumijevanje materijala. Poput slikara koji započinje s praznim platnom, dentalni tehničar ili stomatolog upotrebljava cirkonijsku konstrukciju kao osnovu za stvaranje prirodnog i harmoničnog osmijeha. Kroz primjenu glazurnih boja i slojevitih tehnika bojenja, moguće je reproducirati nijanse, teksture, transparentnost, svjetlinu i sjaj prirodnih zuba. Ovo predavanje propituje umjetnički potencijal bojenja cirkonijskih konstrukcija, naglašavajući važnost individualnog pristupa svakom pacijentu i razumijevanje interakcije svjetla i boje. Poseban naglasak stavljen je na metode slojevitog bojenja, uporabu glazurnih boja za postizanje dubine i dinamike

The Aesthetics of Nature: From a Blank Canvas to a Work of Art

Robert Pongrac, Dental Technician, Private Dental Laboratory, Zagreb, Croatia

ABSTRACT | Staining various zirconia frameworks in dentistry is not merely a technical procedure - it is an artistic expression that demands precision, aesthetic sensitivity and a deep understanding of material science. Much like a painter starting with a blank canvas, the dental technician or clinician uses the zirconia structure as the foundation for creating a natural and harmonious smile.

Through the application of glaze colours and layered staining techniques, it becomes possible to reproduce the subtle nuances, textures, translucency, brightness and lustre of natural teeth. This presentation will explore the artistic potential of zirconia staining, emphasizing the importance of an individual approach to each patient and an understanding of the interplay between light and colour.



te estetiku koja nadilazi tehničku izvedbu. Pomoću tehnike bojenja postiže se dubina i dimenzijalnost, jednom riječju iluzija, koja podsjeća na delikatnost poteza kistom po platnu. U svom radu koristimo mnogo digitalnih alata i softvera kako bi se što više približili boji prirodnih zuba. To su, digitalna fotografija, uređaj za mjerenje boja; spektrofotometri, kolorimetri, softverski alati za određivanje boja zuba, programi za obradu fotografija, npr. Adobe Lightroom, Procreate i Keynote.

Cilj prezentacije je pokazati kako spoj znanosti, tehnologije i umjetnosti omogućava kreiranje savršenih osmijeha koji nisu samo funkcionalni, nego i estetski upečatljivi, ostavljajući dojam prirodne ljepote.

Special focus is placed on methods of layered staining, the use of glaze pigments to achieve optical depth and dynamism, and aesthetics that transcend technical execution. The staining technique adds depth and dimensionality - an illusion reminiscent of the delicate brushstrokes on a painter's canvas.

In our work, we employ a wide range of digital tools and software to approach the exact shade of natural teeth, including digital photography, colour measurement devices (such as spectrophotometers and colorimeters), software to determine tooth colour, and image editing programmes such as Adobe Lightroom, Procreate and Keynote.

The aim of this presentation is to demonstrate how the fusion of science, technology and art enables the creation of a smile that is not only functionally successful, but also aesthetically compelling and leaves a lasting impression of natural beauty.

Digitalna analiza okluzije – isplati li se provoditi u kliničkim uvjetima?

Prof. dr. sc. **Robert Ćelić**, Stomatološki fakultet Sveučilišta u Zagrebu, Hrvatska

SAŽETAK | Tradicionalni pristupi u analizi okluzije u dentalnoj protetici i medicini, poput primjene artikulacijskih papira, Schimstock folija, voskova i silikona za registraciju zagriža (markiranje zubnih kontakata), iako široko primjenjivani u svakodnevnoj kliničkoj praksi, pružaju isključivo kvalitativne podatke bez mogućnosti kvantificiranja jačine (relativne i apsolutne sile zubnog kontakta) i vremenske sekvence zubnih kontakata.

Digitalna analiza okluzije pomoću specijalnih uređaja i softvera (digitalni sustavi poput T-Scana) predstavlja značajan tehnološki napredak u suvremenoj dentalnoj protetici/medicini, omogućujući precizniju i objektivniju procjenu statičkih i dinamičkih zubnih/okluzijskih kontakata u usporedbi s tradicionalnim metodama, ali i u usporedbi s CAD softverima za virtualno dizajniranje protetskih radova i softverima za intraoralno skeniranje koji posjeduju određenu razinu prikaza i analize okluzije. Primjena digitalnih metoda klinički je opravdana u različitim područjima dentalne medicine, uključujući dentalnu protetiku i implantoprotetiku, ortodontiju, parodontologiju i temporomandibularne poremećaje. Upotreba digitalnih sustava omogućuje preciznu kvantifikaciju sila i distribucije okluzijskih kontakata u realnom vremenu, čime se smanjuju subjektivne pogreške kliničara u interpretaciji okluzijskih kontakata i povećava pouzdanost okluzijske analize. Integracija digitalnih tehnika u svakodnevnu kliničku praksu nije samo tehnološki napredak, već i nužnost za osiguravanje predvidljivih dijagnostičkih ishoda i dugotrajnih terapijskih rezultata. Cilj predavanja je usporediti kvalitativne (analogne) i kvantitativne (digitalne) tehnike analize okluzije na temelju objavljene znanstvene literature i svakodnevnog kliničkog rada. Naglasit će se način primjene, prednosti i nedostaci između analognih i digitalnih analiza okluzije.

Digital Occlusion Analysis – Is It Worth Implementing in Clinical Practice?

Prof. **Robert Ćelić**, DMD, PhD, University of Zagreb, School of Dental Medicine, Croatia

ABSTRACT | Traditional methods for occlusal analysis in dental prosthetics and dentistry - such as articulating papers, shimstock foils, bite registration waxes and silicones - are widely used in daily clinical practice. However, these approaches only provide qualitative data and lack the ability to quantify the occlusal contact forces (both relative and absolute) and the temporal sequence of tooth contacts.

Digital occlusal analysis, using special devices and software systems (e.g. T-Scan), represents a significant technological advance in contemporary prosthodontics and dental medicine. It enables a more precise and objective evaluation of static and dynamic occlusal contacts, not only in comparison to traditional techniques, but also to virtual design software (CAD) and intraoral scanning systems, which offer only limited occlusal visualization and analysis. The clinical relevance of digital occlusal analysis has been demonstrated in various dental disciplines, including prosthodontics, implantology, orthodontics, periodontology and temporomandibular disorders.

The use of digital systems allows the real-time quantification of occlusal force magnitude and distribution, reducing the clinician's subjectivity when interpreting occlusal contacts and increasing the reliability of the analysis. The integration of digital methods into daily clinical workflows is not merely a technological improvement, but a necessity to ensure predictable diagnostic accuracy and long-term therapeutic success.

This lecture aims to compare qualitative (analogue) and quantitative (digital) occlusal analysis techniques based on current scientific literature and clinical experience. The focus will be on the practical application, advantages and limitations of analogue versus digital occlusal analysis.

SAŽECI
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PRESENTATION
ABSTRACTS

GINGIVAL BIOTYPE REVISITED: PROSPECTIVE RADIOGRAPHIC STUDY USING CONE BEAM COMPUTED TOMOGRAPHY

Vedrana Braut^{1,2*}, Vivianne Chappuis², Robert Ćelić³,
Michael M. Bornstein⁴, Daniel Buser⁵

¹Private Practice, Rijeka, Croatia; ²Department of Oral Surgery and Stomatology, School of Dental Medicine, University of Bern, Bern, Switzerland; ³Department of Mobile Prosthodontics, School of Dental Medicine, University of Zagreb, Zagreb, Croatia; ⁴Department of Oral Health and Medicine, School of Dental Medicine, University of Basel, Basel, Switzerland; ⁵University of Bern, Bern, Switzerland

Introduction: The objective of the present study was to determine whether the clinical categorization of the gingival biotype by the periodontal probe visibility test shows a positive correlation with the soft tissue thickness measured by cone beam computed tomography.

Materials and methods: Based on the clinical examination, the maxillary anterior teeth of 45 patients were categorised according to the gingival biotype. This evaluation was based on the visibility of the periodontal probe through the gingival margin while probing the sulcus at the midfacial aspect of the respective tooth. All subjects were then scanned using the Morita 3D Accuitomo 170 (FOV 6X6cm and 8X8cm). The vertical distance from the CEJ to the facial alveolar crest was determined at the sagittal mid-point of each maxillary anterior tooth. The corresponding thickness of the soft tissue was measured at the same level.

Statistical analysis: All data were summarised in groups P1, C, I1 and I2 for descriptive analysis, as the side paired Wilcoxon tests showed no significant difference between the left and right tooth positions. Parametric (t-test) and non-parametric (Mann-Whitney test, Kruskal-Wallis test with post-hoc by Dunn) statistical methods were applied. The significance level was set at 0.05. In order to find cut-off values and prognostic relevance, a ROC analysis and optimisation using the Youden index were performed.

Results: In the thin biotype group, subjects had a mean distance between CEJ and initial bone crest of 2.03 to 3.32 mm, while subjects in the thick biotype group were between 2.22 and 2.82 mm. There was no statistically significant difference between the two gingival biotypes with regard to this parameter. There was a statistically significant difference in soft tissue thickness at the alveolar crest between the two gingival biotypes in all teeth. The ROC analysis showed that I2 and C at alveolar crest level present the highest prognostic significance for the gingival biotype. The cut-off value between thick and thin biotype was 1.44 mm and 1.34 mm for I2 and C, respectively.

Conclusion: Clinical categorization of the gingival biotype by the probe visibility test has proven a positive correlation with soft tissue thickness measured by cone-beam computed tomography. CBCT measurement of soft tissue thickness at the level of the facial alveolar crest is a viable option for determining the gingival biotype in modern daily practice.

Keywords: Probe visibility test; Gingival biotype; CBCT; Dental implants

ODREĐIVANJE BIOTIPA GINGIVE: PROSPEKTIVNA RADIOLOŠKA STUDIJA POMOĆU CONE BEAM KOMPJUTERIZIRANE TOMOGRAFIJE

Vedrana Braut^{1,2*}, Vivianne Chappuis², Robert Ćelić³,
Michael M. Bornstein⁴, Daniel Buser⁵

¹Privatna praksa, Rijeka, Hrvatska; ²Zavod za oralnu kirurgiju i stomatologiju, Stomatološki Fakultet Sveučilišta u Bernu, Bern, Švicarska; ³Zavod za mobilnu protetiku, Stomatološki Fakultet Sveučilišta u Zagrebu, Zagreb, Hrvatska; ⁴Zavod za oralnu medicinu, Stomatološki Fakultet Sveučilišta u Baselu, Basel, Švicarska; ⁵Sveučilište u Bernu, Bern, Švicarska

Uvod: Cilj istraživanja bio je odrediti postoji li pozitivna korelacija između kliničkog određivanja biotipa gingive testom vidljivosti sonde i debljine mekog tkiva mjerenog cone beam kompjuteriziranom tomografijom.

Materijali i metode: Biotip gingive određen je kliničkim testom vidljivosti sonde kroz gingivni sulkus na sredini prednjih zuba gornje čeljusti u 45 pacijenata. Svi ispitanici posljedično su skenirani CBCT aparatom Morita 3D Accuitomo 170 (polje vidljivosti 6 × 6 cm te 8 × 8 cm). Vertikalna udaljenost od CC spojišta do ruba bukalne kosti određena je na sagitalnom presjeku sredine pojedinog prednjeg zuba gornje čeljusti. Debljina mekog tkiva mjerena je u razini ruba bukalne kosti za svaki zub.

Statistička analiza: Za deskriptivnu analizu podaci su okupljeni u skupine: P1 (prvi premolar), C (očnjak), I1 (centralni sjekutić) te I2 (lateralni sjekutić), s obzirom na to da Wilcoxonov test za uparene uzorke nije pokazao statistički značajnu razliku između zuba lijeve i desne strane zubnog niza. Učinjena je parametrijska (T-test) i neparametrijska (Mann-Whitneyjev test, Kruskal-Wallisov test s post hoc Dunnovim testom) statistička analiza. Razina statističke značajnosti bila je 0,05. Za određivanje prognostičkog značaja primijenjena je ROC analiza te optimizacija Youdenovim indeksom.

Rezultati: Unutar skupine tankog biotipa gingive ispitana udaljenost od CC spojišta do rubne bukalne kosti iznosila je 2,03 do 3,32 mm, dok je unutar skupine debelog biotipa gingive ista iznosila 2,22 do 2,82 mm. Za navedeni parametar nije uočena statistički značajna razlika. Statistički značajna razlika utvrđena je između dvaju biotipova za parametar debljine mekog tkiva u razini bukalne kosti za sve skupine zuba. ROC analiza pokazala je da debljina mekog tkiva u razini ruba bukalne kosti za skupine I2 i C ima najveći prognostički značaj za određivanje biotipa gingive. Granična vrijednost između tankog i debelog biotipa bila je 1,44 mm za skupinu I2 te 1,34 mm za skupinu C.

Zaključak: Kliničko određivanje biotipa gingive pomoću testa vidljivosti sonde pokazalo je pozitivnu korelaciju s debljinom mekog tkiva mjerenog pomoću CBCT-a. CBCT mjerenje debljine mekog tkiva u razini ruba bukalne kosti učinkovita je metoda određivanja biotipa gingive u modernoj kliničkoj praksi.

Ključne riječi: test vidljivosti sonde; biotip gingive; CBCT; zubni implantati

SINGLE DAY RESTORATIONS USING THE CEREC SYSTEM

Julijana Nikolovska¹, Angel Andonovski¹, Nikola Petricevic^{2*}

¹Department of Prosthodontics, School of Dental Medicine, University of "Cyril and Methodius", Skopje, Republic of North Macedonia; ²Department of Removable Prosthodontics, School of Dental Medicine, University of Zagreb, Zagreb, Croatia

Introduction: The CEREC system is a pioneering digital dentistry tool that enables the fabrication and placement of veneers and crowns in a single dental visit, also known as same-day dentistry. The combination of digital impressions, precise design software, and in-office milling units will be presented.

Materials and methods: The CAD/CAM workflow, which involves three key steps, is presented on two case reports. Digital scanning involves an intraoral scanner that captures a precise 3D impression of the prepared tooth, ensuring high accuracy and reducing the need for traditional impression materials. Digital scanning is followed by computer-aided design (CAD) or processing of the scanned data using specialized software, which the dentist uses to design the restoration based on tooth morphology, occlusion and aesthetics. This is followed by computer-aided manufacturing (CAM), i.e. the transfer to a milling unit that carves the restoration from high-quality ceramic, zirconia, or composite blocks. Lithium disilicate (e.g. IPS e.max), feldspathic porcelain, and hybrid ceramics are popular materials due to their durability, strength and aesthetic qualities.

After milling, the restorations are often polished, stained or glazed to improve the aesthetics. In the final step, the restoration is bonded directly to the prepared tooth using adhesive techniques.

Conclusion: The integration of CAD/CAM technology and the CEREC system has revolutionized dental treatment by combining precision, speed and convenience. This method improves clinical efficiency, increases the durability of the restoration and enhances the patient experience. By using advanced ceramic materials and streamlined workflows, one-day dentistry has become a reliable solution for long-lasting, natural-looking restorations in a single visit.

Keywords: CAD/CAM technology; CEREC system; Same-day dentistry; Dental veneers; Dental crowns

IZRADA JEDNOPOSJETNE RESTAURACIJE POMOĆU CEREC SUSTAVA

Julijana Nikolovska¹, Angel Andonovski¹, Nikola Petričević^{2*}

¹Zavod za stomatološku protetiku, Stomatološki fakultet, Sveučilište Ćirila i Metoda, Skoplje, Republika Sjeverna Makedonija; ²Zavod za stomatološku protetiku, Stomatološki fakultet, Sveučilište u Zagrebu, Zagreb, Hrvatska

Uvod: CEREC sustav je pionirski alat za digitalnu stomatologiju koji omogućuje izradu i postavljanje ljuskica i krunica u jednom stomatološkom posjetu, poznatom i kao jednodnevna stomatologija. Bit će predstavljena kombinacija digitalnih otisaka, softvera za precizan dizajn i ordinacijskih glodalica.

Materijali i metode: CAD/CAM tijek rada koji uključuje tri ključna koraka bit će predstavljen na dva prikaza slučajeva. Digitalno skeniranje uključuje intraoralni skener koji snima precizan 3D otisak pripremljenog zuba, osiguravajući visoku točnost i smanjujući potrebu za tradicionalnim materijalima za otiske. Nakon digitalnog skeniranja slijedi računalno potpomognuto projektiranje (CAD), odnosno skenirani se podaci obrađuju pomoću specijaliziranog softvera, gdje stomatolog dizajnira restauraciju na temelju morfologije zuba, okluzije i estetike. Konačno, bit će uključena računalno potpomognuta proizvodnja (CAM), što znači slanje u glodalicu koja izrađuje restauraciju od visokokvalitetnih keramičkih, cirkonijevih ili kompozitnih blokova. Popularni materijali uključuju litijev disilikat (npr. IPS e.max), feldspatsku keramiku i hibridnu keramiku zbog svoje izdržljivosti, čvrstoće i estetskih svojstava.

Nakon glodanja, nadomjestci se poliraju, boje ili glaziraju radi poboljšavanja estetike. Posljednji korak uključuje izravno lijepljenje nadomjestka na pripremljeni zub pomoću adhezivnih tehnika.

Zaključak: Integracija CAD/CAM tehnologije i CEREC sustava uvela je revoluciju u stomatološke tretmane kombinirajući preciznost, brzinu i praktičnost. Ova metoda poboljšava kliničku učinkovitost, povećava trajnost nadomjestka i podiže kvalitetu iskustva pacijenata. Uporabom naprednih keramičkih materijala i pojednostavljenih radnih procesa, jednodnevna stomatologija postala je pouzdano rješenje za postizanje dugotrajnih nadomjestaka prirodnog izgleda u jednom posjetu.

Ključne riječi: CAD/CAM tehnologija; CEREC sustav; jednodnevna stomatologija; zubne ljuskice; zubne krunice

PERCEPTION OF TOOTH COLOUR LIGHTNESS INCREASE AMONG GENERAL POPULATION AND DENTISTS

Natalija Prica¹, Asja Čelebić², Dario Puljić², Sanja Peršić Kiršić², Nikola Petričević^{2*}

¹Dental Clinic Zagreb, Zagreb, Croatia; ²Department of Removable Prosthodontics, School of Dental Medicine, University of Zagreb, Zagreb, Croatia

Introduction: Comparison of the perception of tooth colour (lighter central incisor) in the general population, in general dentists and in 3 groups of specialists (prosthodontics, periodontists and orthodontics).

Materials and methods: Front teeth and lips were photographed while smiling from a distance of 15 cm using a mobile phone camera (Huawei Pro20, Shenzhen, Guangdong, China). The camera settings of the smartphone were set to the default values before taking the photos and the Smile Lite MDP device (Smile Line, St-Imier, Switzerland) was installed.

A total of 8 photos were taken, the initial one (WB = 5500 K) and 7 photos each with 200 K more than the previous one (WB 5300 K, 5100 K, 4900 K, 4700 K, 4500 K, 4300 K, and 4100 K) to obtain 7 different luminance levels of a tooth (increase in lightness of tooth 11). From all 7 manipulated photos, tooth 11 was cut and pasted into the source photo (Adobe Photoshop 2021) taken at WB 5500 K. In this way, a set of 8 photos was made (the initial photo plus 7 manipulations of a gradually brightening tooth 11). A total of 136 evaluators participated. They were asked one question: Mark the photo where you first notice the change.

Results: The results showed that the general dentists only noticed the change when the tooth was lighter in colour. The general population and the orthodontists were the last group to notice the change, while the periodontists and the prosthodontists noticed that the tooth was lighter from the first manipulations of the tooth colour. The independent samples t-test revealed statistically significantly lower values for periodontists, general dentists and prosthodontists ($p < 0.001$), and orthodontists ($p < 0.05$), i.e. all groups of dentists noticed the manipulations earlier compared to the general population.

Conclusion: The perception of the increase in the lightness of teeth varies between the general population, general dentists and specialists in prosthodontics, periodontology and orthodontics.

Keywords: Perception; Tooth; Colour; Dentist; Population

PERCEPCIJA PROMJENE BOJE ZUBA PRILIKOM POSVJETLJIVANJA KOD OPĆE POPULACIJE I KOD STOMATOLOGA

Natalija Prica¹, Asja Čelebić², Dario Puljić², Sanja Peršić Kiršić², Nikola Petričević^{2*}

¹Stomatološka poliklinika Zagreb, Zagreb, Hrvatska; ²Zavod za stomatološku protetiku, Stomatološki fakultet, Sveučilište u Zagrebu, Zagreb, Hrvatska

Uvod: Usporedba percepcije boje zuba (svjetliji središnji sjekutić) među općom populacijom, općim stomatolozima i 3 skupine specijalista (protetike, parodontologije i ortodontije).

Materijali i metode: Prednji zubi i usne fotografirani su prilikom osmijeha s udaljenosti od 15 cm, pomoću kamere mobilnog uređaja (Huawei Pro20, Shenzhen, Guangdong, Kina). Postavke kamere pametnog telefona postavljene su na zadane vrijednosti prije snimanja i instaliran je uređaj Smile Lite MDP (Smile Line, St-Imier, Švicarska). Snimljeno je ukupno 8 fotografija, početna (postavljeno WB = 5500 K) i 7 fotografija, svaka s 200 K više od prethodne (WB 5300 K, 5100 K, 4900 K, 4700 K, 4500 K, 4300 K te 4100 K) kako bi se dobilo 7 različitih razina svjetlijeg zuba (povećanje svjetline zuba 11). Kod svih 7 manipuliranih fotografija zub 11 je izrezan i umetnut (Adobe Photoshop 2021) u početnu fotografiju snimljenu pri WB 5500 K. Na taj je način napravljen set od 8 fotografija (početna i 7 manipulacija postupno svjetlijeg zuba 11). Ukupno je sudjelovalo 136 procjenjivača. Postavljen im je jedan zadatak: *Označite fotografiju kada prvi put primijetite promjenu.*

Rezultati: Pokazalo se da su opći stomatolozi primijetili promjenu samo kada je zub bio svjetliji, opća populacija i ortodonti bili su posljednja skupina koja je primijetila promjenu, dok su parodontolozi i protetičari primijetili da je zub bio svjetliji već pri prvim manipulacijama boje zuba. T-test za neovisne uzorke pokazao je statistički značajno niže vrijednosti među parodontolozima, općim stomatolozima i specijalistima protetike ($p < 0,001$) i ortodontima ($p < 0,05$), tj. sve skupine stomatologa ranije su primijetile manipulaciju u usporedbi s općom populacijom.

Zaključak: Percepcija povećanja svjetline zuba razlikuje se među općom populacijom, općim stomatolozima i specijalistima protetike, parodontologije i ortodontije.

Ključne riječi: percepcija; zub; boja; stomatolog; populacija

ATTITUDES AND KNOWLEDGE OF DENTAL STUDENTS REGARDING CAD/CAM TECHNOLOGY

Sanja Peršić Kiršić¹, Žarko Udiljak^{2,3}, Petra Rajčić², Nikola Petričević¹, Mia Vujević⁴

¹Department of Removable Prosthodontics, School of Dental Medicine, University of Zagreb, Zagreb, Croatia; ²Private Dental Clinics, Zagreb, Croatia; ³Faculty of Dental Medicine and Health, Josip Juraj Strossmayer University of Osijek, Osijek, Croatia; ⁴Private Dental Clinics, Split, Croatia

Objectives: CAD/CAM technology represents an innovative digital approach in dental medicine, making it essential to provide adequate training in its implementation. The aim of the study was to assess the attitudes and knowledge of dental students at the Faculty of Dental Medicine and Health in Osijek regarding the use of CAD/CAM in order to evaluate their level of knowledge and identify the need for additional education.

Materials and methods: The study included 102 dental students: 44 students (44.88%) were enrolled in preclinical training (PT) and 58 students (55.12%) in clinical training (CT). The average age of the participants was 24.38 years. Among the respondents, 41 (40.20%) were male. Participants completed an anonymous 21-item questionnaire developed for the study. The collected data were statistically analysed with significance level set at $p < 0.05$.

Results: Although 80.39% of students were exposed to CAD/CAM as part of their standard curriculum ($p < 0.05$), less than half (45.10%) had the opportunity to engage with it in a practical setting. Regardless of their level of study, most students (88.24%) had not taken any extracurricular courses on CAD/CAM ($p < 0.05$). Twenty-four PT students (54.5%) and 19 CT students (75%) did not feel adequately informed about this topic ($p < 0.05$). Furthermore, 85.29% of students expressed interest in additional education in CAD/CAM and believed that it was worth investing in such education. The majority of students (77.45%) agreed that CAD/CAM offers a significantly faster alternative to conventional techniques and 4.90% considered it too complex or not cost-effective ($p < 0.05$). The results also showed a statistically significant difference in knowledge and attitudes between students with family members working in dentistry and those without such a background ($t(100) = 4.12$, $p < 0.05$).

Conclusion: Although CT students demonstrated significantly greater knowledge and more positive attitudes toward CAD/CAM compared to PT students and although the majority of students had heard of CAD/CAM, it can be concluded that dental students are generally insufficiently informed about this topic. There is a clear need for improved education on CAD/CAM. Greater knowledge and more favourable perceptions of CAD/CAM were observed among students with family members in dentistry, suggesting that early and personal exposure to the profession may positively influence attitudes towards modern technologies in dental medicine.

Keywords: Computer-aided design; Dental education; Dental students; Questionnaires; Attitude to health

STAJALIŠTA I RAZINA ZNANJA STUDENATA DENTALNE MEDICINE O PRIMJENI CAD/CAM TEHNOLOGIJE

Sanja Peršić Kiršić^{1*}, Žarko Udiljak^{2,3}, Petra Rajčić², Nikola Petričević¹, Mia Vujević⁴

¹Zavod za mobilnu protetiku, Stomatološki fakultet Sveučilišta u Zagrebu, Zagreb, Hrvatska; ²Privatna dentalna ordinacija, Zagreb, Hrvatska; ³Fakultet za dentalnu medicinu i zdravstvo Sveučilišta u Osijeku, Osijek, Hrvatska; ⁴Privatna dentalna ordinacija, Split, Hrvatska

Svrha: CAD/CAM tehnologija predstavlja inovativan digitalni pristup u dentalnoj medicini te je važno osigurati odgovarajuću edukaciju studenata o toj tehnologiji. Svrha istraživanja bila je ispitati informiranost i mišljenja studenata dentalne medicine na Fakultetu za dentalnu medicinu i zdravstvo u Osijeku o primjeni CAD/CAM tehnologije, kako bi se stekao uvid u razinu njihova znanja i potrebu za dodatnim podučavanjem.

Materijali i metode: Istraživanje je provedeno na 102 studenta, 44 studenata (44,88 %) na pretkliničkoj nastavi (PS) te 58 studenata (55,12 %) na kliničkoj nastavi (CS). Prosječna dob ispitanika bila je 24,38 godina (SD = 2,06), a 41 (40,2 %) ispitanik bio je muškog spola. Ispitanici su ispunili anonimni upitnik od 21 pitanja, sastavljen za potrebe ovog istraživanja. Dobiveni rezultati statistički su obrađeni s razinom značajnosti $p < 0,05$.

Rezultati: Većina studenata (80,39 %) čula je za CAD/CAM tehnologiju tijekom redovite nastave na fakultetu ($p < 0,05$), a samo 45,10 % je imalo praktično iskustvo s njom. Bez obzira na stupanj obrazovanja, većina studenata (88,24 %) nije pohađala nijedan tečaj o navedenoj tehnologiji izvan nastave na fakultetu ($p < 0,05$). Dvadeset i četiri PS studenta (54,5%) te 19 CS studenata (75%) smatralo je da nisu dovoljno informirani o CAD/CAM tehnologiji ($p < 0,05$). Nadalje, 85,29 % studenata izjavilo je da se planira dodatno educirati o CAD/CAM tehnologiji i smatra da je isplativo ulagati u edukaciju na tom području. Većina studenata smatrala je da je CAD/CAM tehnologija značajno brža od konvencionalnih tehnika (45 %), dok je 4,90 % smatralo tehnologiju kompliciranom ili neisplativom. Rezultati su pokazali statistički značajnu razliku u znanju i mišljenju između studenata čiji se članovi obitelji bave stomatologijom i onih koji nemaju takvu pozadinu ($t(100) = 4,12$, $p < 0,05$).

Zaključak: Iako su CS studenti imali značajno više znanja i pozitivniji stav prema CAD/CAM tehnologiji u odnosu na PS studente te iako je većina studenata (i pretkliničkih i kliničkih) čula za CAD/CAM tehnologiju, može se zaključiti da studenti dentalne medicine nisu dovoljno informirani o ovoj temi te da postoji značajan prostor za unapređenje podučavanja i obrazovanja. Studenti čiji su obiteljski članovi zaposleni u stomatologiji pokazali su veće znanje i pozitivnije stavove prema CAD/CAM tehnologiji, što sugerira da obiteljski utjecaj i ranija izloženost struci mogu igrati važnu ulogu u razvoju pozitivnijeg stava prema suvremenim tehnologijama u dentalnoj medicini.

Ključne riječi: računalno vođeno oblikovanje; dentalno obrazovanje; studenti dentalne medicine; upitnici; stav prema zdravlju

COMBINED PROSTHODONTIC SOLUTION IN A PARTIALLY EDENTULOUS PATIENT – A CASE REPORT

Dinka Vinković^{1*}, Ivan Jagić¹, Robert Pongrac²,
Dubravka Knezović Zlatarić^{1,3}

¹Department of Prosthodontics, Dental Clinic, University Hospital Center Zagreb, Zagreb, Croatia; ²Private Dental Laboratory, Zagreb, Croatia;

³Department of Removable Prosthodontics, School of Dental Medicine, University of Zagreb, Zagreb, Croatia

Introduction: Complete oral rehabilitation in edentulous and partially edentulous patients presents a significant challenge in modern prosthodontics. This case report describes the rehabilitation of a female patient with complete maxillary edentulism and partial mandibular edentulism using a combined digital/analogue approach for fixed and removable prostheses.

Case report: The treatment plan included the fabrication of a conventional complete (metal framework supported) maxillary denture and a combined fixed and removable prosthodontic solution for the mandible (metal framework supported). The lower jaw rehabilitation was achieved with two metal-ceramic crowns (digitally designed and printed), two ball attachments for enhanced prosthesis retention, and a removable partial denture. With this approach, the patient's natural vertical and horizontal dimensions were successfully restored, ensuring optimal function and high aesthetic standards. Through careful clinical and laboratory procedures, the rehabilitation resulted in improved masticatory efficiency, phonetics and facial aesthetics, which significantly improved the patient's quality of life. The use of ball attachments contributed to the stability and retention of the lower prosthesis, preventing excessive movement and ensuring long-term success.

Conclusion: This case highlights the importance of a comprehensive treatment strategy in achieving functional and aesthetic rehabilitation in partially edentulous patients. The combination of fixed and removable prostheses provides a cost-effective and efficient solution that preserves the oral structures while meeting the patient's functional and aesthetic expectations.

Keywords: Crown; Denture; Retention; Stability; Aesthetics

KOMBINIRANO PROTETSKO RJEŠENJE U DJELOMIČNO BEZUBE PACIJENTICE – PRIKAZ SLUČAJA

Dinka Vinković^{1*}, Ivan Jagić¹, Robert Pongrac²,
Dubravka Knezović Zlatarić^{1,3}

¹Zavod za stomatološku protetiku, Klinika za stomatologiju, KBC Zagreb, Zagreb, Hrvatska; ²Privatni dentalni laboratorij, Zagreb, Hrvatska; ³Zavod za mobilnu protetiku, Stomatološki fakultet, Sveučilišta u Zagrebu, Zagreb, Hrvatska

Uvod: Potpuna oralna rehabilitacija kod potpuno i djelomično bezubih pacijenata predstavlja značajan izazov u suvremenoj protetici. Ovaj prikaz slučaja opisuje rehabilitaciju pacijentice s potpunom bezubošću gornje čeljusti i djelomičnom bezubošću donje čeljusti, uporabom kombiniranog fiksnog i mobilnog protetskog digitalno-analognog pristupa.

Prikaz slučaja: Plan terapije uključivao je izradu konvencionalne potpune gornje proteze (s metalnom bazom) te kombiniranog fiksnog i mobilnog protetskog rješenja za donju čeljust. Rehabilitacija donje čeljusti postignuta je pomoću dviju metalno-keramičkih krunica (digitalno dizajniranih i printanih), dvaju kuglastih pričvršćenja za poboljšanu retenciju proteze te donje djelomične proteze (s metalnom bazom). Ovim pristupom uspješno su obnovljene prirodne vertikalne i horizontalne dimenzije pacijentice, čime su osigurane optimalna funkcija i visoka razina estetike. Pažljivim kliničkim i laboratorijskim postupcima rehabilitacija je rezultirala poboljšanom učinkovitošću žvakanja, fonacije i estetikom lica, čime je značajno povećana kvaliteta pacijentčina života. Upotreba kuglastih pričvršćenja pridonijela je stabilnosti i retenciji donje proteze, sprečavajući prekomjerno pomicanje i osiguravajući dugotrajan uspjeh.

Zaključak: Ovaj slučaj naglašava važnost sveobuhvatne strategije liječenja u postizanju funkcionalne i estetske rehabilitacije djelomično bezubih pacijenata. Kombinacija fiksnih i mobilnih protetskih nadomjestaka omogućuje isplativo i učinkovito rješenje, očuvanje oralnih struktura te ispunjavanje funkcionalnih i estetskih očekivanja pacijenata.

Ključne riječi: krunica; proteza; retencija; stabilnost; estetika

COMPARISON OF ANALOG AND DIGITAL PROTOCOLS FOR THE FABRICATION OF A MAXILLARY COMPLETE ACRYLIC DENTURE – A CASE REPORT

Dubravka Knezović Zlatarić^{1,2*}, Mihael Skaza³, Dinka Vinković², Ivana Bergovec², Matea Zaher Švarc²

¹Department of Removable Prosthodontics, School of Dental Medicine, University of Zagreb, Zagreb, Croatia; ²Department of Prosthodontics, Dental Clinic, University Hospital Center Zagreb, Zagreb, Croatia; ³Interdent, Celje, Slovenia

Introduction: Advances in digital technology have significantly changed prosthetic rehabilitation, particularly in the fabrication of complete dentures. This case report compares the analogue and digital protocols for the fabrication of a maxillary complete acrylic denture in the same patient. The aim was to assess the functional and aesthetic differences between dentures fabricated using conventional methods and those produced with digital techniques.

Case report: The patient was provided with two maxillary complete dentures - one was fabricated using the conventional analogue method in a dental office and laboratory, the other using a digital approach. The digital denture was designed using an intraoral scanner to capture the edentulous jaw, functional impression and bite registration templates. After digital data processing, the denture was milled from a prefabricated acrylic block, incorporating prefabricated teeth into the design. After completion, the patient tested both dentures and evaluated their functionality and comfort. The results indicated that the digital denture had a superior suction effect and offered better retention and stability compared to the analogue denture.

Conclusion: This case study highlights the advantages of digital denture fabrication, particularly in terms of precision, retention and patient comfort. While the analogue protocol remains a reliable method, digital technology offers an efficient alternative with the potential to improve prosthetic rehabilitation outcomes. Further research and clinical studies are needed to fully understand the long-term benefits of digital dentures.

Keywords: Complete denture; Digital dentistry; Analog fabrication; Retention; Stability

USPOREDBA ANALOGNOG I DIGITALNOG PROTOKOLA IZRADE GORNJE POTPUNE AKRILATNE PROTEZE – PRIKAZ SLUČAJA

Dubravka Knezović Zlatarić^{1,2*}, Mihael Skaza³, Dinka Vinković², Ivana Bergovec², Matea Zaher Švarc²

¹Zavod za mobilnu protetiku, Stomatološki fakultet Sveučilišta u Zagrebu, Zagreb, Hrvatska; ²Zavod za stomatološku protetiku, Klinika za stomatologiju, KBC Zagreb, Zagreb, Hrvatska; ³Interdent, Celje, Slovenija

Uvod: Napredak u digitalnoj tehnologiji donosi značajne promjene u protetskoj rehabilitaciji, posebice u izradi potpunih proteza. Ovaj prikaz slučaja uspoređuje analogni i digitalni protokol izrade gornje potpune akrilatne proteze kod iste pacijentice. Cilj je bio procijeniti funkcionalne i estetske razlike između proteza izrađenih konvencionalnim metodama i onih izrađenih pomoću digitalnih tehnika.

Prikaz slučaja: Pacijentici su izrađene dvije potpune gornje proteze – jedna konvencionalnim analognim postupkom u ordinaciji i laboratoriju, a druga digitalnim pristupom. Digitalna proteza izrađena je pomoću intraoralnog skenera kojim su skenirani bezuba čeljust, funkcijski otisak i zagrizne šablone. Nakon digitalne obrade podataka, proteza je glodana iz gotovog akrilatnog bloka, dok su zubi ugrađeni kao gotovi prefabrikati. Nakon završetka obiju proteza, pacijentica ih je isprobala i procijenila njihovu funkcionalnost i udobnost. Rezultati su pokazali da digitalna proteza ima bolji ventilni učinak, pružajući poboljšanu retenciju i stabilnost u usporedbi s analognom protezom.

Zaključak: Ovaj prikaz slučaja naglašava sve razlike, prednosti i nedostatke digitalne izrade potpunih proteza, osobito u pogledu preciznosti, retencije i pacijentove udobnosti. Iako analogni protokol ostaje pouzdana metoda, digitalna tehnologija pruža učinkovitu alternativu s potencijalom za poboljšanje ishoda protetske rehabilitacije. Daljnja istraživanja i kliničke studije potrebne su za potpuno razumijevanje dugoročnih prednosti digitalnih proteza.

Ključne riječi: potpuna proteza; digitalna stomatologija; analogni izrada; retencija; stabilnost

COMPARISON OF ANALOG AND DIGITAL TECHNIQUES FOR FABRICATING A MAXILLARY PARTIAL DENTURE WITH A METAL BASE – A CASE REPORT

Dubravka Knezović Zlatarić^{1,2*}, Ivana Bergovec², Leonard Francetić²

¹Department of Removable Prosthodontics, School of Dental Medicine, University of Zagreb, Zagreb, Croatia; ²Department of Prosthodontics, Dental Clinic, University Hospital Center Zagreb, Zagreb, Croatia;

Introduction: The development of digital technology has had a significant impact on prosthetic dentistry, offering new possibilities for the fabrication of partial dentures. This case report compares the analogue and digital techniques used in the fabrication of a maxillary partial denture with a metal base for a patient with existing fixed restorations featuring attachments. The patient wished to retain these attachments, which posed a challenge for the design and fabrication of the new partial denture.

Case report: The patient required a new maxillary partial denture while retaining her existing fixed prosthetic work, which contained attachments of satisfactory quality. The initial attempt to fabricate the partial denture using conventional analogue methods was unsuccessful, probably due to the non-parallel alignment of the attachments, which prevented the framework from fitting correctly. To overcome this challenge, a digital approach was chosen. Intraoral scanning was used to capture the exact geometry of the edentulous areas and the existing attachments. The digital design process made it possible to compensate for the misalignment of the attachments, ensuring a precise and functional fit. The metal framework of the denture was produced using 3D printing technology, ensuring a high degree of accuracy and adaptability to the patient's oral conditions. On delivery, the patient reported excellent comfort and satisfaction with the new digital partial denture. The improved fit and stability provided by the digitally designed framework improved both function and aesthetics, making it a superior solution compared to the conventional approach.

Conclusion: This case study underscores the advantages of digital fabrication in prosthodontics, especially in complex cases with existing fixed restorations. The ability to digitally design and 3D print metal frameworks allows for greater precision and overcoming challenges that are difficult to address with traditional analogue techniques. Digital technology is therefore a valuable alternative for achieving optimal patient outcomes in removable prosthodontics.

Keywords: Partial denture; Digital dentistry; Metal framework; 3D printing; Prosthetic attachments

USPOREDBA ANALOGNE I DIGITALNE TEHNIKE IZRADE GORNJE DJELOMIČNE PROTEZE S METALNOM BAZOM – PRIKAZ SLUČAJA

Dubravka Knezović Zlatarić^{1,2*}, Ivana Bergovec², Leonard Francetić²

¹Zavod za mobilnu protetiku, Stomatološki fakultet, Sveučilišta u Zagrebu, Zagreb, Hrvatska; ²Zavod za stomatološku protetiku, Klinika za stomatologiju, KBC Zagreb, Zagreb, Hrvatska

Uvod: Razvoj digitalne tehnologije značajno je utjecao na područje protetske stomatologije, pružajući nove mogućnosti u izradi djelomičnih proteza. Ovaj prikaz slučaja uspoređuje analognu i digitalnu tehniku izrade gornje djelomične proteze s metalnom bazom kod pacijentice s postojećim fiksnim protetskim radom koji uključuje pričvrstke. Pacijentica je željela zadržati postojeće pričvrstke, što je predstavljalo izazov pri dizajnu i izradi nove djelomične proteze.

Prikaz slučaja: Pacijentici je bila potrebna nova gornja djelomična proteza uz zadržavanje postojećeg fiksnog protetskog rada s pričvrstcima zadovoljavajuće kvalitete. Pokušaj izrade proteze konvencionalnom analognom metodom bio je neuspješan, vjerojatno zbog neparalelnosti pričvrstaka, što je onemogućilo pravilno prilagođavanje metalne baze proteze. Kako bi se prevladala ova poteškoća, primijenjen je digitalni pristup. Intraoralnim skeniranjem precizno su zabilježene bezube regije i postojeći pričvrstci. Digitalnim dizajnom omogućena je kompenzacija neparalelnosti pričvrstaka, čime se osiguralo precizno i funkcionalno prilagođavanje proteze. Metalni dio proteze izrađen je tehnologijom 3D printanja, što je osiguralo visoku preciznost i optimalno pristajanje oralnim uvjetima pacijentice. Nakon predaje proteze, pacijentica je izrazila iznimno zadovoljstvo novim digitalno izrađenim djelomičnim protetskim radom. Poboljšani dosjed i stabilnost digitalno dizajnirane proteze omogućili su bolju funkcionalnost i estetiku, čineći ovo rješenje uspješnijim u usporedbi s konvencionalnim pristupom.

Zaključak: Ovaj prikaz slučaja naglašava prednosti digitalne izrade u protetskoj stomatologiji, osobito u složenim slučajevima koji uključuju postojeće fiksne nadomjestke. Mogućnost digitalnog dizajniranja i 3D printanja metalnih baza proteza omogućuje veću preciznost, rješavajući probleme koji su teško izvedivi tradicionalnim analognim tehnikama. Digitalna tehnologija predstavlja vrijednu alternativu za postizanje optimalnih protetskih rješenja u području mobilne protetike.

Ključne riječi: djelomična proteza; digitalna stomatologija; metalna baza, 3D printanje; protetski pričvrstci

DIGITAL ANALYSIS OF OCCLUSAL CONTACTS IN MAXIMUM INTERCUSPATION USING THE MEDIT I700 INTRAORAL SCANNER – A CASE REPORT

Dubravka Knezović Zlatarić^{1, 2*}

¹Department of Removable Prosthodontics, School of Dental Medicine, University of Zagreb, Zagreb, Croatia; ²Department of Prosthodontics, Dental Clinic, University Hospital Center Zagreb, Zagreb, Croatia

Introduction: The introduction of intraoral scanners in prosthodontics allows not only the digital recording of the patient's current oral condition, but also the performance of complex analyses that were traditionally difficult, time-consuming and relatively imprecise in an analogue setting. Digital scanning enables a more detailed and precise visualization of occlusal contacts, which are often difficult to see in a conventional intraoral examination. With the help of the scanner application, it is possible to identify the patient's occlusal contacts and their intensity with greater accuracy.

Case report: A patient underwent a digital occlusal analysis with the MEDIT I700 intraoral scanner. The scanner captured the maxillary and mandibular arches in maximum intercuspation and registered the occlusal contacts with a high degree of precision. The scanned data was saved as JPEG images and later analysed using the GIMP application, which allowed quantification of the pixel values corresponding to different occlusal pressure intensities. This digital approach made it possible to evaluate the occlusal contacts in various mandibular positions, ensuring a more reliable and reproducible analysis compared to the traditional methods using articulating paper. The scanner allowed for better visualization of occlusal discrepancies that would have been challenging to detect intraorally, so that more precise adjustments could be made if necessary.

Conclusion: This case report highlights the advantages of digital occlusal analysis using an intraoral scanner. The ability to evaluate occlusal contacts digitally provides a more objective and accurate assessment compared to conventional analogue methods. By utilising software tools to quantify occlusal forces, clinicians can achieve a higher level of diagnostic accuracy, improving the quality of prosthetic and restorative treatments.

Keywords: Intraoral scanner; Occlusal analysis; Digital dentistry; Maximum intercuspation; Prosthodontics

DIGITALNA ANALIZA OKLUZIJSKIH KONTAKATA U MAKSIMALNOJ INTERKUSPIDACIJI U APLIKACIJI MEDIT I700 INTRAORALNOG SKENERA – PRIKAZ SLUČAJA

Dubravka Knezović Zlatarić^{1, 2*}

¹Zavod za mobilnu protetiku, Stomatološki fakultet, Sveučilišta u Zagrebu, Zagreb, Hrvatska; ²Zavod za stomatološku protetiku, Klinika za stomatologiju, KBC Zagreb, Zagreb, Hrvatska

Uvod: Uvođenje intraoralnih skenera u protetiku omogućuje ne samo digitalno bilježenje postojećeg stanja u ustima pacijenta nego i provedbu analiza koje su u analognoj inačici bile složene, dugotrajne i relativno neprecizne. Digitalno skeniranje omogućuje detaljniji i precizniji uvid u okluzijske kontakte, koji su često teško uočljivi pri konvencionalnom intraoralnom pregledu. Pomoću aplikacije skenera moguće je identificirati pacijentove okluzijske kontakte i odrediti njihov intenzitet.

Prikaz slučaja: Pacijentici je provedena digitalna analiza okluzije pomoću intraoralnog skenera MEDIT I700. Skener je zabilježio maksilarni i mandibularni luk u maksimalnoj interkuspidaciji, omogućujući precizno evidentiranje okluzijskih kontakata. Dobiveni skenovi pohranjeni su u formatu JPEG i naknadno analizirani u aplikaciji GIMP, gdje je moguće kvantificirati broj piksela određenih boja koje odgovaraju različitim intenzitetima okluzijskih sila. Ovaj digitalni pristup omogućuje evaluaciju okluzijskih kontakata u različitim položajima donje čeljusti, čime se osigurava pouzdanija i ponovljiva analiza u odnosu na tradicionalne metode s artikulacijskim papirom. Skener je omogućio bolju vizualizaciju okluzijskih odstupanja koja bi bila teško uočljiva u ustima pacijenta, omogućujući preciznije prilagodbe po potrebi.

Zaključak: Ovaj prikaz slučaja ističe prednosti digitalne analize okluzijskih kontakata pomoću intraoralnog skenera. Mogućnost digitalne evaluacije kontakata omogućuje objektivniju i precizniju procjenu u usporedbi s konvencionalnim analognim metodama. Uporabom softverskih alata za kvantifikaciju okluzijskih sila, kliničari mogu postići višu razinu dijagnostičke preciznosti, poboljšavajući kvalitetu protetskih i restaurativnih zahvata.

Ključne riječi: intraoralni skener; analiza okluzije; digitalna stomatologija; maksimalna interkuspidacija; protetika

DIGITAL FABRICATION OF THE KOIS DEPROGRAMMER FOR ACCURATE MANDIBULAR POSITIONING

Dubravka Knezović Zlatarić^{1, 2*}

¹Department of Removable Prosthodontics, School of Dental Medicine, University of Zagreb, Zagreb, Croatia; ²Department of Prosthodontics, Dental Clinic, University Hospital Center Zagreb, Zagreb, Croatia

Introduction: Positioning the mandible in centric relation traditionally relies on various analogue techniques, which can often be unreliable. These methods depend on the patient's concentration, muscle relaxation, and the skill and experience of the dentist. In addition, the involvement of a lab technician is required in some cases, which increases the time, material costs and complexity. The digital approach offers a more efficient and precise solution. By scanning both jaws and digitally determining the position of the centric relation, a front deprogrammer can be designed in just a few minutes, ensuring optimal mandibular positioning. The deprogrammer is then 3D printed, making the process significantly faster and more reproducible.

Case report: A patient required accurate mandibular positioning for a prosthetic treatment. The traditional analogue deprogramming methods proved to be inconsistent and time consuming. A digital workflow was implemented using an intraoral scanner to capture both the maxillary and mandibular arches. The patient was guided into the correct centric relation position, which was then scanned. Using digital design software, a front Kois deprogrammer was designed and optimised within minutes. The digital design allowed for highly accurate customisation of the deprogrammer to the patient's individual characteristics, eliminating the need for multiple corrections. This method reduced reliance on patient cooperation and muscle relaxation during impression-taking.

Conclusion: This case highlights the advantages of digital fabrication in mandibular positioning. The ability to digitally design and 3D print the Kois deprogrammer ensures greater precision, efficiency and reproducibility compared to traditional analogue methods. Digital workflows simplify the process and reduce chairside time, material costs and dependence on external laboratories. The implementation of intraoral scanning and 3D printing in prosthodontics significantly improves the accuracy of centric relation registration.

Keywords: Kois deprogrammer; Digital dentistry; Intraoral scanner; Mandibular positioning; 3D printing; Centric relation

DIGITALNA IZRADA KOIS DEPROGRAMATORA ZA PRAVLINO POZICIONIRANJE DONJE ČELJUSTI

Dubravka Knezović Zlatarić^{1, 2*}

¹Zavod za mobilnu protetiku, Stomatološki fakultet, Sveučilišta u Zagrebu, Zagreb, Hrvatska; ²Zavod za stomatološku protetiku, Klinika za stomatologiju, KBC Zagreb, Zagreb, Hrvatska

Uvod: Za pozicioniranje donje čeljusti u centričnoj relaciji do sada se koristio velik broj analognih tehnika, koje često nisu bile potpuno pouzdane. One ovise o koncentraciji pacijenta tijekom izrade, opuštenosti mišića te znanju i vještini stomatologa. U nekim slučajevima potrebna je i dodatna suradnja dentalnog tehničara, što produljuje vrijeme izrade i povećava troškove. Digitalna metoda omogućuje brže i preciznije rješenje. Skeniranjem obiju čeljusti te postavljanjem u centričnu relaciju u nekoliko minuta digitalno se oblikuje prednji deprogramator. Nakon dizajna, deprogramator se ispisuje 3D printerom, čime se znatno skraćuje vrijeme izrade i poboljšava preciznost.

Prikaz slučaja: Pacijentici je bilo potrebno precizno pozicioniranje donje čeljusti u okviru protetske terapije. Konvencionalne analogne metode pokazale su se nepouzdanima i dugotrajnima. Primijenjen je digitalni pristup pomoću intraoralnog skenera za bilježenje gornje i donje čeljusti. Pacijentica je dovedena u ispravan položaj centrične relacije, koji je potom skeniran. Na temelju dobivenih podataka, u digitalnom dizajnerskom softveru oblikovan je Kois deprogramator u svega nekoliko minuta. Digitalni dizajn omogućio je preciznu prilagodbu deprogramatora individualnim karakteristikama pacijentice, eliminirajući potrebu za višestrukim korekcijama. Ova metoda smanjila je ovisnost o pacijentovoj suradnji i mišićnoj relaksaciji tijekom uzimanja otiska.

Zaključak: Ovaj prikaz slučaja naglašava prednosti digitalne izrade u preciznom pozicioniranju donje čeljusti. Mogućnost digitalnog dizajniranja i 3D printanja Kois deprogramatora osigurava veću preciznost, učinkovitost i ponovljivost u usporedbi s tradicionalnim analognim metodama. Digitalni pristup pojednostavljuje proces, smanjuje vrijeme provedeno u ordinaciji, troškove materijala i ovisnost o dodatnom laboratorijskom radu. Primjena intraoralnog skeniranja i 3D printanja u protetici značajno poboljšava preciznost registracije centrične relacije.

Ključne riječi: Kois deprogramator; digitalna stomatologija; intraoralni skener; pozicioniranje donje čeljusti; 3D printanje; centrična relacija

FABRICATION OF COMPLETE DENTURES IN A PATIENT WITH MEDICATION RELATED OSTEONECROSIS OF THE JAW - CASE REPORT

Karla Sučević¹, Marko Granić², Sonja Kraljević Šimunković³, Samir Čimić^{3*}

¹Private Dental Practice, Zagreb, Croatia; ²Department of Oral Surgery, School of Dental Medicine, University of Zagreb, Croatia; ³Department of Removable Prosthodontics, School of Dental Medicine, University of Zagreb, Croatia

Background: Medication related osteonecrosis of the jaw can be difficult to treat due to different jaw defects.

Case report: In this case report, a patient with medication related osteonecrosis of the jaw (MRONJ; female, 74 years) is presented. The anamnesis showed a history of breast cancer and long-term therapy with Zometa (four years, every four weeks), which was recently replaced by Ibat (50 mg per os daily). Clinical examination revealed exposed bone surrounded by inflamed mucosa. The patient stated that tooth 43 had been extracted six months previously by her general dentist and that she had been referred to the School of Dental Medicine due to prolonged post-extraction inflammation. The patient's symptoms included pain at the site of the inflammation. After a detailed examination and medical history, a diagnosis of MRONJ was made and a panoramic radiograph confirmed the clinical diagnosis. Prior to the fabrication of complete dentures, it was decided to perform the extraction of teeth 17 and 27 and the smoothing of the necrotic bone margins at the Department of Oral Surgery. Ibat therapy was discontinued one month before the operation and resumed one month after the operation. Antibiotic prophylaxis (Clavocin) was also administered for seven days. Two months after the surgery, an upper and a lower complete denture were fabricated. Four months after the first operation, satisfactory bone healing had not been achieved, and persistent inflammation was visible. It was decided to repeat the surgery, but this time a more radical approach was taken and all the necrotic bone sequestra was removed and the bone cleaned. The patient was again prescribed the same antibiotic prophylaxis and the Ibat therapy was discontinued. Two months after surgery, successful healing was evident and hard denture relining was made.

Conclusion: Prosthetic therapy in patients with bone defects, such as those of MRONJ, represents a great challenge for the clinician. Such patients require frequent follow-up appointments. If necessary, a hard or soft prosthetic relining can be applied to dentures.

Key words: Dentures; Osteonecrosis; Relining

IZRADA POTPUNIH PROTEZA KOD PACIJENTICE S MEDIKAMENTOZNO OSTEONEKROZOM MANDIBULE – PRIKAZ SLUČAJA

Karla Sučević¹, Marko Granić², Sonja Kraljević Šimunković³, Samir Čimić^{3*}

¹Privatna ordinacija dentalne medicine, Zagreb, Hrvatska; ²Zavod za oralnu kirurgiju, Stomatološki fakultet, Sveučilište u Zagrebu, Hrvatska; ³Zavod za mobilnu protetiku, Stomatološki fakultet, Sveučilište u Zagrebu, Hrvatska

Uvod: Medikamentoznu osteonekrozu čeljusti može biti teško protetski sanirati zbog različitih defekata čeljusti.

Prikaz slučaja: Ovaj prikaz slučaja prikazuje pacijenticu s medikamentoznom osteonekrozom čeljusti (MRONJ; 74 godine). Iz anamneze: karcinom dojke i dugotrajna terapija Zometom (četiri godine, svaka četiri tjedna), koja je nedavno zamijenjena Ibatom (50 mg per os svaki dan). Klinički pregled pokazao je kost okruženu upaljenom sluznicom. Pacijentica je navela da joj je zub 43 izvađen prije šest mjeseci kod primarnog stomatologa te je zbog dugotrajne upale nakon vađenja upućena na Stomatološki fakultet. Od simptoma pacijentica je navodila bol na mjestu upale. Nakon detaljnog pregleda i anamneze postavljena je dijagnoza MRONJ-a, a panoramskim RTG-om potvrđena je klinička dijagnoza. Prije izrade potpune proteze odlučeno je da se na Odjelu za oralnu kirurgiju provede vađenje zuba 17 i 27 te zaglađivanje nekrotičnih rubova kosti. Mjesec dana prije operacije terapija Ibatom je prekinuta, a ponovno je uvedena mjesec dana nakon operacije. Provedena je i antibiotska profilaksa (Klavocin) u trajanju od sedam dana. Dva mjeseca nakon operacije izrađene su gornja i donja potpuna proteza. Četiri mjeseca nakon prve operacije nije postignuto zadovoljavajuće cijeljenje kosti i bila je vidljiva perzistentna upala. Odlučeno je ponoviti operaciju, no ovoga puta pristup je bio radikalniji te je uklonjen cijeli nekrotični koštani sekvstrum i očišćena je kost. Pacijentici je ponovno propisana ista antibiotska profilaksa i prekinuta je terapija lijekom Ibat. Dva mjeseca nakon operacije vidljivo je uspješno cijeljenje i napravljeno je izravno podlaganje proteze.

Zaključak: Protetska terapija kod pacijenata s koštanim defektima, poput MRONJ-a, predstavlja izazov za kliničara. Kod takvih su pacijenata potrebni česti kontrolni pregledi, a po potrebi proteze se mogu podložiti mekim ili tvrdim materijalom za podlaganje.

Glavne riječi: proteze; osteonekroza; podlaganje

POSSIBILITIES OF USING DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES IN PUBLIC HEALTHCARE SYSTEMS

Davor Illeš^{1*}, Iva Badovinac Hajduković², Petra Tariba³, Tina Poklepović⁴, Željko Verzak⁵

¹Faculty of Dental Medicine, University of Zagreb, Zagreb, Croatia; ²Dental Polyclinic Zagreb, Zagreb, Croatia; ³Faculty of Medicine, University of Rijeka, Rijeka, Croatia; ⁴Faculty of Medicine, University of Split, Split, Croatia; ⁵University Hospital Centre Zagreb, Zagreb, Croatia

Introduction: Digital technologies, including CAD/CAM systems and 3D printing, are rapidly transforming dental prosthetics, offering potential for improving precision, efficiency, and accessibility of therapy. However, the implementation of these technologies in clinical practice, especially in public healthcare systems, requires a systematic assessment of their actual value compared to traditional methods. There is a lack of a standardised framework for comparing different digital solutions based on a broader range of relevant criteria.

Goals: The aim of this paper is to present the concept of an "indexed score" as a tool for the structured evaluation and comparison of different 3D digital technologies used in the fabrication of specific dental prosthetic restorations.

Methods: A composite index was developed that quantifies and integrates key aspects of the application of digital technologies. The index focuses on cost efficiency, which is divided into the following components:

- Ease of application and integration: The ease with which the technology can be introduced into existing clinical/laboratory workflows and the need for additional training
- Potential to replace traditional technologies: The possibility of completely or partially abandoning conventional procedures
- Quality: Impact on the precision of fit, aesthetics, comfort and durability of the restoration
- Time efficiency: Total time from impression taking/scanning to delivery of the finished restoration (patient waiting time)
- Resource utilization: Material consumption and time spent by clinicians and dental technicians
- Investment requirements: The need to acquire new, often expensive equipment and software
- Environmental component: Impact on the environment (e.g. waste reduction, energy consumption).

Discussion and conclusion: Various digital workflows for fabricating were evaluated and compared according to this index, possibly in the form of a ranking list. The proposed index provides a structured, multi-criteria framework for the objective assessment and comparison of digital technologies in prosthodontics and suggests printed occlusal splints, printed complete dentures, printed partial denture frameworks, printed hybrid ceramic crowns and monolithic zirconia crowns as digital technologies for entry into the public health system.

Keywords: Tier list; Dental health services; Dental CAD/CAM; Dental 3D printing

MOGUĆNOSTI UPORABE DIGITALNIH TEHNOLOGIJA U SUSTAVIMA JAVNOG ZDRAVSTVA

Davor Illeš^{1*}, Iva Badovinac Hajduković², Petra Tariba³, Tina Poklepović⁴, Željko Verzak⁵

¹Stomatološki fakultet Sveučilišta u Zagrebu, Zagreb, Hrvatska; ²Stomatološka poliklinika Zagreb, Zagreb, Hrvatska; ³Medicinski fakultet Sveučilišta u Rijeci, Rijeka, Hrvatska; ⁴Medicinski fakultet Sveučilišta u Splitu, Split, Hrvatska; ⁵Klinički bolnički centar Zagreb, Zagreb, Hrvatska

Uvod: Digitalne tehnologije, uključujući CAD/CAM sustave i 3D printanje, rapidno transformiraju stomatološku protetiku, nudeći potencijal za unapređenje preciznosti, efikasnosti i dostupnosti terapije. Međutim, implementacija ovih tehnologija u kliničku praksu, posebice u sustavima javnog zdravstva, zahtijeva sustavnu procjenu njihove stvarne vrijednosti u usporedbi s tradicionalnim metodama. Nedostaje standardizirani okvir za usporedbu različitih digitalnih rješenja na temelju šireg spektra relevantnih kriterija.

Svrha: Cilj ovog rada je predstaviti koncept *indeksirane ocjene* kao alata za strukturiranu evaluaciju i usporedbu različitih 3D digitalnih tehnologija primijenjenih u izradi specifičnih stomatoloških protetskih nadomjestaka: nagriznih udlaga, potpunih i djelomičnih proteza te krunica.

Metode: Razvijen je kompozitni indeks koji kvantificira i objedinjuje ključne aspekte primjene digitalnih tehnologija. Indeks adresira isplativost (engl. *cost-effectiveness*), razlomljeno u sljedeće komponente:

- Jednostavnost primjene i integracije: Lakoća uvođenja tehnologije u postojeći klinički/laboratorijski tijek rada i potrebu za dodatnom edukacijom.
- Potencijal zamjene tradicionalnih tehnologija: Mogućnost potpunog ili djelomičnog napuštanja konvencionalnih postupaka.
- Kvaliteta: Utjecaj na preciznost nalijeganja nadomjestka, estetiku, udobnost i dugotrajnost.
- Vremenska efikasnost: Ukupno vrijeme od uzimanja otiska/skeniranja do isporuke gotovog nadomjestka (vrijeme čekanja pacijenta).
- Uporaba resursa: Potrošnja materijala te angažman vremena kliničara i dentalnih tehničara.
- Investicijske zahtjeve: Potreba za nabavkom nove, često skupe opreme i softvera.
- Ekološka komponenta: Utjecaj na okoliš (npr. smanjenje otpada, potrošnja energije).

Različiti digitalni tijekovi rada za izradu navedenih nadomjestaka ocijenjeni su prema ovom indeksu i usporedno prikazani, potencijalno u formatu rangirane liste (*tier lista*). Predloženi indeks pruža strukturirani, višekriterijski okvir za objektivnu procjenu i usporedbu digitalnih tehnologija u stomatološkoj protetici te predlaže printane nagrizne udlage, printane potpune proteze, printane skelete djelomičnih proteza, printane krunice od hibridne keramike i monolitne cirkonij-oksidge krunice kao ulazne digitalne tehnologije u sustavu javnog zdravstva.

Ključne riječi: rang-lista; dentalno javno zdravstvo; dentalni CAD/CAM; dentalno 3D printanje

THREE-DIMENSIONAL ANALYSIS OF THE POSTERIOR WALL INCLINATION OF THE TEMPOROMANDIBULAR JOINT ARTICULAR EMINENCE

Josip Kranjčić^{1,2*}, Josip Vukšić^{1,2}, Andreja Carek¹, Petra Rajčić³, Denis Vojvodić^{1,2}

¹University of Zagreb School of Dental Medicine, Zagreb, Croatia; ²Dubrava University Hospital, Zagreb, Croatia; ³Private Dental Practice, Zagreb, Croatia

Objective: The anatomy of the temporomandibular joint (TMJ) has been the subject of numerous studies, with the inclination of the posterior wall of the articular eminence (AEI) being an important biomechanical factor in mandibular movements. The purpose of this research was to investigate the AEI values on sections obtained from digital imaging of articular eminence.

Materials and methods: The study was conducted on digital scans of 60 TMJ articular eminences (30 from the left and 30 from the right side). Silicone impressions of the articular eminence and fossa were made on skulls of the modern Croatian population (20th century), which were then scanned using an Atos Core 135 optical scanner. Measurements of AEI were taken through 5 virtual sections of articular eminence, from lateral to medial, with a 4 mm distance between consecutive sections (the first section being the most lateral). The AEI was defined as the angle formed by the Frankfurt horizontal plane and the line connecting the highest point of the glenoid fossa to the lowest point of the articular eminence. The results were interpreted with a significance level of 0.05.

Results: In the samples from the right side, the highest AEI value was recorded in the second section (36.2°), while in the samples from the left side, the highest AEI value was recorded in the fourth section (37.9°). The differences in AEI values between the sections of the same articular eminence were not always statistically significant, nor were the differences in AEI values between the right and left sides ($p > 0.05$).

Conclusion: AEI values vary depending on the measurement location through the articular eminence from lateral to medial. Higher AEI values are most commonly measured in the second, third and fourth sections, while lower AEI values are most frequently found in the first and fifth sections.

Keywords: Temporomandibular joint; Croatia; Dentistry

TRODIMENZIONALNA ANALIZA NAGIBA STRAŽNJEG ZIDA ZGLOBNE KVRŽICE TEMPOROMANDIBULARNOGA ZGLOBA

Josip Kranjčić^{1,2*}, Josip Vukšić^{1,2}, Andreja Carek¹, Petra Rajčić³, Denis Vojvodić^{1,2}

¹Sveučilište u Zagrebu, Stomatološki fakultet, Zagreb, Hrvatska; ²Klinička bolnica Dubrava, Zagreb, Hrvatska; ³Privatna ordinacija dentalne medicine, Zagreb, Hrvatska

Svrha: Anatomija temporomandibularnoga zgloba predmet je mnogih istraživanja, a nagib stražnjega zida zglobne kvržice (NZK) važan je biomehanički element pri kretanjima donje čeljusti. Svrha ovoga istraživanja bila je istražiti vrijednosti NZK-a na presjecima kroz digitalni snimak zglobne kvržice.

Materijali i metode: Istraživanje je provedeno na digitalnim snimcima (skenovima) ukupno 60 zglobnih kvržica temporomandibularnoga zgloba (30 lijeve strane i 30 desne strane). Silikonski otisci zglobne kvržice i jamice napravljeni su na lubanjama moderne hrvatske populacije (20. st.), potom su skenirani optičkim skenerom Atos Core 135 te su provedena mjerenja NZK-a kroz 5 virtualnih presjeka zglobne kvržice, od lateralno prema medijalno, međusobne udaljenosti od 4 mm (prvi presjek je najlateralniji). NZK je određen kao kut što ga zatvara frankfurtska horizontala s linijom koja spaja najvišu točku zglobne jamice s najnižom točkom zglobne kvržice. Rezultati su interpretirani na razini značajnosti od 0,05.

Rezultati: Na uzorcima desne strane, najviša vrijednost NZK-a izmjerena je na drugom rezu (36,2°), dok je na uzorcima lijeve strane, najviša vrijednost NZK-a izmjerena na četvrtom rezu (37,9°). Razlike vrijednosti NZK-a između pojedinih rezova na istoj zglobnoj kvržici nisu bile uvijek statistički značajne, kao ni razlike vrijednosti NZK-a izmjerene desno i lijevo ($p > 0,05$).

Zaključak: Vrijednosti NZK-a variraju ovisno o mjestu mjerenja kroz zglobnu kvržicu, od lateralno prema medijalno. Više vrijednosti NZK-a najčešće se mjere na drugom, trećem i četvrtom presjeku dok su niže vrijednosti NZK-a najčešće prisutne na prvom i petom presjeku.

Ključne riječi: temporomandibularni zglob; Hrvatska; stomatologija

ANALYSIS OF ENDODONTIC TREATMENT IN ABUTMENT TEETH SUPPORTING FIXED PROSTHETIC RESTORATIONS

Josip Kranjčić^{1, 2*}, Josip Vukšić^{1, 2}, Maja Božić², Gabriela Bavrka³

¹University of Zagreb School of Dental Medicine, Zagreb, Croatia; ²Dubrava University Hospital, Zagreb, Croatia; ³Private Dental Practice, Zagreb, Croatia

Objective: The evaluation of the condition of teeth that serve as abutments for fixed prosthetic restorations is crucial for the planning of prosthetic therapy. The aim of this study was to assess the endodontic treatment of maxillary and mandibular incisors – teeth that serve as abutments for fixed restorations.

Materials and methods: The study was conducted using orthopantomograms stored in the archives of the Clinical Department of Prosthodontics at Dubrava University Hospital. The study included only incisors from the upper and lower jaw that served as abutments for fixed restorations. Using an appropriate computer program for analysing orthopantomograms, the distance between the radiological apex of the tooth and the end of the root canal filling was measured in millimetres. On this basis, the root canal filling was categorised as either too short (distance greater than 2 mm), normal (distance less than 2 mm) or overfilled (exceeding the apex). The results were analysed at a significance level of $p < 0.05$.

Results: Normal filling was observed in the majority of the upper incisors (53%) and a similar result was found for the lower incisors (70%). Overfilling was observed in a small number of cases in both upper and lower teeth (2%). Shorter endodontic fillings were observed more frequently: 45% of the upper teeth and 28% of the lower teeth showed this condition. The differences observed were statistically significant ($p < 0.001$).

Conclusion: On the basis of the conducted research and the results obtained, it can be concluded that, despite a higher number of well-performed endodontic treatments on upper and lower incisors, there are a considerable number of inadequately filled root canals on teeth that serve as abutments for fixed prosthetic restorations. This highlights the need to improve the quality of endodontic treatments and the necessity for additional training for dentists.

Keywords: Teeth; Endodontically treated; Dentistry; Prosthodontics

ANALIZA ENDODONTSKOG LIJEČENJA KOD ZUBA NOSAČA FIKSNOG NADOMJESTKA

Josip Kranjčić^{1, 2*}, Josip Vukšić^{1, 2}, Maja Božić², Gabriela Bavrka³

¹Sveučilište u Zagrebu, Stomatološki fakultet, Zagreb, Hrvatska; ²Klinička bolnica Dubrava; ³Privatna ordinacija dentalne medicine

Svrha: Procjena stanja zuba nosača fiksno protetskog nadomjestka iznimno je važna pri planiranju protetske terapije. Svrha ovog istraživanja bila je procijeniti endodontsko liječenje na sjekutićima gornje i donje čeljusti – zubima nosačima fiksnih nadomjestaka.

Materijali i metode: Istraživanje je provedeno na ortopantomogramima pohranjenima u arhivi Kliničkog zavoda za stomatološku protetiku Kliničke bolnice Dubrava. Istraživanje je provedeno samo na sjekutićima gornje i donje čeljusti koji su služili kao nosači fiksnih nadomjestaka. U odgovarajućem računalnom programu za analizu ortopantomograma određena je udaljenost radiološkog apeksa zuba i završetka punila korijenskog kanala u mm. Na temelju toga punjenje kanala označeno je kao prekratko (udaljenost više od 2 mm), normalno (udaljenost manja od 2 mm) ili kao prepunjenje (prelazi apeks). Dobiveni rezultati analizirani su na razini značajnosti $p < 0,05$.

Rezultati: Među gornjim sjekutićima, normalno punjenje zabilježeno je u većem broju slučajeva (53 %), a sličan podatak dobiven je i za donje sjekutiće (70 %). Prepunjenje je zabilježeno u malom broju slučajeva kako za gornje tako i za donje zube (2 %). Kraće endodontsko punjenje bilo je prisutno u nešto većem broju slučajeva, kod gornjih zubi u 45 % i kod donjih zubi u 28 % slučajeva. Dobivene razlike bile su statistički značajne ($p < 0,001$).

Zaključak: S obzirom na provedeno istraživanje i dobivene rezultate istraživanja može se zaključiti kako unatoč većem broju dobrih endodontskih liječenja na gornjim i donjim sjekutićima, značajan je broj neadekvatno punjenih korijenskih kanala zubi koji služe kao zubi nosači fiksnog nadomjestka. To može voditi zaključku o potrebi za poboljšanjem kvalitete endodontskog liječenja te potrebi za dodatnom obrazovanju stomatologa.

Ključne riječi: zub; endodontski liječen; stomatologija; stomatološka protetika

OCCLUSAL TRAUMA OF IMPLANT-PROSTHETIC RESTORATION – CASE REPORT

Samir Čimić^{1*}, Marko Granić²

¹Department of Removable Prosthodontics, School of Dental Medicine, University of Zagreb, Zagreb, Croatia; ²Department of Oral Surgery, School of Dental Medicine, University of Zagreb, Zagreb, Croatia

Background: Unstable occlusion can develop different symptoms in different patients.

Case report: This case report presents a patient who presented to the prosthodontic clinic with pain around a dental implant in position 15. The patient was female and 65 years old. She suffers from lung cancer. The treatment against the cancer started 3 years ago (iv. bisphosphonate every 4 weeks), while the immunotherapy against the recurrence of the cancer was recently stopped (atezolizumab). Other medications include fexofenadine hydrochloride and metformin chloride. The patient came after a specialist periodontological treatment (around the implant 15), and after a consultation with an oral surgeon (the suspicion of osteonecrosis was dismissed). The pain around the dental implant 15 started 4 months ago. The upper jaw was rehabilitated with an implant prosthodontic restoration (all on five). The implants were placed 4 years ago and a new prosthodontic restoration was made a few months ago (due to a ceramic fracture of the first restoration). X-ray examination revealed bone loss around the dental implant 15 and intraoral examination showed premature tooth contact (in the upper right premolar/molar region) with a visible lateral displacement of the mandible to the left. Analysis of the study casts (in centric position) revealed premature contact on teeth 14 and 15, while the remaining teeth were not in occlusion. A stabilisation splint was made, and the patient was referred to the clinic where rehabilitation for occlusal equilibration was performed.

Conclusion: A stable occlusion is necessary for the long-term function of any prosthetic restoration. Occlusal trauma affects the health of the gingiva around dental implants.

Keywords: Occlusion; Occlusal trauma; Dental implants

OKLUZIJSKA TRAUMA IMPLANTO-PROTETSKOG RADA – PRIKAZ SLUČAJA

Samir Čimić^{1*}, Marko Granić²

¹Zavod za mobilnu protetiku, Stomatološki fakultet, Sveučilište u Zagrebu, Zagreb, Hrvatska; ²Zavod za oralnu kirurgiju, Stomatološki fakultet, Sveučilište u Zagrebu, Hrvatska

Uvod: Nestabilna okluzija može razviti različite simptome kod različitih pacijenata.

Prikaz slučaja: Ovaj prikaz slučaja prikazuje pacijenticu koja se javila u Kliniku za stomatološku protetiku zbog boli oko zubnog implantata na poziciji 15. Pacijentica je ženskog spola i ima 65 godina. Boluje od karcinoma pluća. Liječenje karcinoma počelo je prije 3 godine (iv. bisfosfonat svaka 4 tjedna), dok je imunoterapija za recidiv karcinoma nedavno završila (atezolizumab). Ostali lijekovi uključuju feksofenadin hidroklorid i metformin klorid. Pacijentica je došla nakon specijalističke parodontološke obrade (oko implantata 15) te nakon konzultacija s oralnim kirurgom (odbačena je sumnja na osteonekrozu). Bol oko zubnog implantata 15 počela je prije 4 mjeseca. Gornja čeljust sanirana je implantoprotetskim nadomjestkom (tzv. *all on five*). Implantati su postavljeni prije 4 godine, a prije nekoliko mjeseci napravljen je novi protetski nadomjestak (zbog loma keramike prvog nadomjeska). Rentgenska analiza pokazala je gubitak kosti oko zubnog implantata 15. Intraoralni pregled pokazao je preuranjeni kontakt zuba (u gornjem desnom predjelu premolara/molara), s vidljivim lateralnim pomakom mandibule ulijevo. Analizom studijskih odljeva (u položaju centrične relacije) utvrđen je prijevremeni kontakt na zubu 14 i 15, dok su ostali zubi bili izvan kontakta. Izrađena je stabilizacijska udlaga, a pacijentica je upućena u kliniku gdje je napravljena rehabilitacija radi usklađivanja okluzije.

Zaključak: Za dugotrajnu funkciju svakog protetskog nadomjeska nužna je stabilna okluzija. Okluzijska trauma utječe na zdravlje gingive oko zubnih implantata.

Ključne riječi: okluzija, okluzijska trauma, dentalni implantati

FINITE ELEMENT ANALYSIS OF STRESS DISTRIBUTION IN COMPLETE DENTURES WITH VARYING OCCLUSAL RELATIONSHIPS

Martin Pavlin^{1*}, Robert Ćelić², Nenad Gubeljak³, Jožef Predan³

¹Tindens Dental Clinic, Maribor, Slovenia; ²Department of Removable Prosthodontics, School of Dentistry University of Zagreb, Zagreb, Croatia; ³Faculty of Mechanical Engineering, University of Maribor, Maribor, Slovenia

Introduction: Complete dentures are subject to significant load variations during masticatory function. The stress patterns within complete dentures are different for each patient and depend on many factors, such as the thickness of the acrylic base, the uneven geometries of the complete dentures, the acrylic material used, the muscle strength, the nature of the underlying soft tissues, the stability of the denture base, and the shape and position of the acrylic teeth (occlusal contacts).

Research objective: This study is based on the finite element analysis of numerical models of complete dentures and their mechanical compression testing in two selected occlusal relationships (eugathic and prognathic) under average bite forces (100 N and 200 N). The objective of the research was to determine and monitor the areas of load transfer from dental contacts through the denture base components, aiming to identify potential locations on the complete dentures (acrylic base and acrylic teeth) where fractures may occur due to equivalent stresses (i.e. stresses that exceed the strength limits of the material).

Materials and methods: To develop three-dimensional spatial models of complete dentures for numerical simulation (finite element analysis) in eugathic and prognathic occlusal relationships, upper and lower acrylic dentures were digitally scanned using a three-dimensional computerized tomography system (Soredex Scanora 3D, Biotech, Hong Kong). The mechanical properties of the acrylic teeth and the base material were measured, including tensile and compressive strength, modulus of elasticity, and Poisson's ratio.

Results: Experimental compression tests on actual acrylic complete dentures in the eugathic relationship, performed on a universal testing machine, revealed that fracture of the acrylic base occurred centrally, indicating a higher probability of cracking in the base due to the stress concentration in the acrylic material. In contrast, in the prognathic occlusal relationship, a longitudinal fracture of the acrylic teeth was observed. The numerical results showed a similar pattern to the experimental investigations and confirmed the presence of stress-prone regions that correlate with potential and actual fracture sites depending on the occlusal contact pattern between the acrylic teeth.

Conclusion: Under compressive loading, a complete denture behaves as a load-bearing structure that redistributes forces from the contact points of the acrylic teeth to the regions of the acrylic base.

Keywords: Finite element analysis; Stress distribution; Complete dentures; Bite force; Eugathic and prognathic occlusal relationship

ANALIZA RASPODJELE NAPREZANJA METODOM KONAČNIH ELEMENATA U POTPUNIM PROTEZAMA PRI RAZLIČITIM OKLUZIJSKIM ODNOSIMA

Martin Pavlin^{1*}, Robert Ćelić², Nenad Gubeljak³, Jožef Predan³

¹Tindens dentalna klinika, Maribor, Slovenija; ²Zavod za mobilnu protetiku, Stomatološki fakultet Sveučilišta u Zagrebu, Zagreb, Hrvatska; ³Fakultet strojarstva, Sveučilište u Mariboru, Maribor, Slovenija

Uvod: Potpune proteze tijekom funkcije žvakanja izložene su znatnim varijacijama opterećenja. Obrasci raspodjele naprežanja unutar potpunih proteza razlikuju se među pacijentima te ovise o brojnim čimbenicima poput debljine akrilatne baze, nepravilnosti u geometriji proteze, vrsti korištenog akrilatnog materijala, snazi žvačnih mišića, svojstvima potpornih mekih tkiva, stabilnosti baze proteze te obliku i položaju akrilatnih zubi (okluzijski kontakti).

Cilj istraživanja: Ovo istraživanje temelji se na analizi konačnih elemenata numeričkih modela potpunih proteza te na njihovu mehaničkom tlačnom testiranju u dvama odabranim okluzijskim odnosima (eugnatom i progenom), pod prosječnim silama zagriža (100 N i 200 N). Cilj istraživanja bio je utvrditi i pratiti područja prijenosa opterećenja od okluzijskih kontakata akrilatnih zubi prema komponentama baze proteze, s ciljem identifikacije potencijalnih lokacija na potpunim protezama (akrilatna baza i akrilatni zubi) gdje bi moglo doći do frakture uslijed pojave ekvivalentnog naprežanja (tj. naprežanja koje prelazi granične čvrstoće materijala).

Materijali i metode: Za izradu trodimenzionalnih prostorno-orijentiranih modela potpunih proteza u eugnatom i progenom okluzijskom odnosu korištenih u numeričkoj simulaciji (analiza konačnih elemenata), gornje i donje akrilatne proteze digitalizirane su pomoću trodimenzionalne računalne tomografije (Soredex Scanora 3D, Biotech, Hong Kong). Ispitana su mehanička svojstva akrilatnog materijala zuba i baze, uključujući vlačnu i tlačnu čvrstoću, modul elastičnosti te Poissonov omjer.

Rezultati: Eksperimentalno ispitivanje tlačne čvrstoće stvarnih akrilatnih potpunih proteza u eugnatom okluzijskom odnosu, provedeno na univerzalnom ispitnom stroju, pokazalo je da fraktura akrilatne baze nastaje po sredini, što ukazuje na povećan rizik inicijacije pukotine u toj regiji zbog koncentracije naprežanja unutar akrilatnog materijala. Nasuprot tome, u progenom okluzijskom odnosu uočen je uzdužni lom akrilatnih zubi. Numerički rezultati pokazali su sličan obrazac kao i eksperimentalna testiranja, potvrđujući prisutnost regija sklonih naprežanju koje koreliraju s potencijalnim i stvarnim mjestima loma, ovisno o obrascu okluzijskog kontakta između akrilatnih zubi.

Zaključak: Tijekom tlačnog opterećenja, potpuna proteza ponaša se kao nosiva konstrukcija koja redistribuira sile od kontaktnih točaka akrilatnih zubi prema područjima akrilatne baze.

Ključne riječi: analiza konačnih elemenata; raspodjela naprežanja; potpune proteze; sila zagriža; eugnat i progeni okluzijski odnos

FABRICATION OF DIGITAL COMPLETE DENTURES USING CAD/CAM AND 3D PRINTING TECHNOLOGIES – CASE REPORT

Robert Ćelić^{1*}, Stanislava Senzel², Matko Palac³, Gracia Ćelić², Hrvoje Pezo²

¹Department of Removable Prosthodontics University of Zagreb, Zagreb, Croatia; ²Private Dental Polyclinic Ars Salutaris, Zagreb, Croatia; ³Private Dental Laboratory Naturaldent, Zagreb, Croatia

Introduction: This case report presents the clinical and laboratory application of digital technologies in the fabrication of complete dentures using a reference protocol based on the patient's existing conventional complete dentures.

Case report: A new complete dentures were fabricated over the course of three clinical appointments. Functional impressions and maxillomandibular records were scanned extraorally using an intraoral scanner (3Shape Trios 5, Denmark). The resulting STL files of the functional impressions and intermaxillary registrations were imported into CAD software (exoCAD, Complete Denture Module, Germany), where the virtual design process was performed. To validate the virtual design, trial dentures were 3D printed and used to assess the seal (retention), aesthetics of the tooth position, phonetics (speech test), as well as static and dynamic occlusal contacts using articulating paper. Based on the final virtual design, fabrication was carried out in parallel using two digital manufacturing technologies: CAD/CAM milling (imes-icore, Germany), in which the denture base and teeth were milled separately from acrylic blocks, and 3D printing (Asiga, Australia), in which the base and teeth were printed separately using light-cured acrylic resin. In both cases, the denture base and teeth were bonded with the same adhesive system (Bredent visio.link + crea.line, Germany).

Discussion: Digitally fabricated complete dentures, whether milled or 3D printed, offer greater precision, reproducibility and a shorter fabrication time. The digital design workflow allows for rapid replication and customisation and offers the option of archiving the digital denture files. However, 3D printed complete dentures exhibit greater porosity and lower mechanical resistance compared to milled or conventionally processed dentures (flasks). The cost of digital fabrication equipment and software is relatively high, and the current aesthetic options - especially in terms of tooth colour and translucency - are still somewhat limited when compared to conventional dentures.

Conclusion: This case demonstrates that the fabrication of complete dentures using CAD/CAM and 3D printing technologies enables a predictable and accurate workflow. The approach offers a simplified clinical protocol, reduced fabrication time, and improved accuracy of maxillomandibular records and functional adaptation.

Keywords: Digital complete denture; Intraoral scanner; CAD/CAM technology; 3D printing.

IZRADA DIGITALNE POTPUNE PROTEZE POMOĆU CAD/CAM I 3D TEHNOLOGIJA – PRIKAZ SLUČAJA

Robert Ćelić^{1*}, Stanislava Senzel², Matko Palac³, Gracia Ćelić², Hrvoje Pezo²

¹Zavod za mobilnu protetiku Sveučilišta u Zagrebu, Zagreb, Hrvatska; ²Privatna dentalna poliklinika Ars Salutaris, Zagreb, Hrvatska; ³Privatni zubotehnički laboratorij Naturaldent, Zagreb, Hrvatska

Uvod: U ovom prikazu slučaja prikazana je klinička i laboratorijska primjena digitalnih tehnologija u izradi potpune proteze koristeći se referentnim protokolom s postojećim klasičnim potpunim protezama.

Prikaz slučaja: Pacijent s višegodišnjim iskustvom nošenja konvencionalnih potpunih proteza podvrgnut je digitalnoj izradi potpunih proteza u tri posjeta ordinaciji. Funkcijski otisci i međučeljusni odnosi skenirani su intraoralnim skenerom (3Shape, Trios 5, Danska) izvan usta pacijenta. Dobiveni STL podaci skenova funkcijskih otisaka i međučeljusnih odnosa ekstrapolirani su u CAD softver (exoCAD modul (Njemačka) za dizajniranje potpunih proteza), gdje je provedeno virtualno dizajniranje (modeliranje baze proteze, postava zubi, međučeljusni odnosi) novih digitalnih potpunih proteza. Za provjeru virtualnog dizajna budućih isprintane su probne potpune proteze kako bi se testirali ventilni učinak (retencija), estetika postave zubi, međučeljusni odnosi (test fonacije) te uskladili statički i dinamički okluzijski kontakti (tanki artikulacijski papir). Na temelju digitalnog dizajna izrada je provedena paralelno kroz dvije digitalne tehnologije: (1) CAD/CAM frezanjem (imes-icore, Njemačka) iz akrilatnih blokova izrađeni su zasebno baza i zubi proteze; (2) 3D printanjem iz tekućeg akrilata (Asiga, Australija) izrađeni su također zasebno akrilatna baza i zubi. U oba slučaja, akrilatna baza i zubi spojeni su uporabom identičnog adheziva (Bredent visio.link + crea.line, Njemačka).

Rasprava: Prednosti digitalne potpune proteze, bilo frezane ili printane, nude bolju preciznost, dosljednost i kraće vrijeme izrade. Digitalni dizajn omogućava brzu replikaciju i prilagodbu, a dizajn potpunih proteza može se arhivirati. Nedostatci printane potpune proteze su veća poroznost i manja mehanička otpornost od frezanih ili kivetiranih. Cijena obiju tehnologija opreme i softvera je viša, a estetske mogućnosti, posebno kod boje i translucencije akrilatnih zuba, još uvijek su ograničene u odnosu na klasične potpune proteze.

Zaključak: Ovaj prikaz izrade digitalne potpune proteze primjenom CAD/CAM tehnologije i 3D printanja potvrđuje mogućnost predvidive i precizne izrade digitalnih potpunih proteza pomoću suvremenih digitalnih tehnologija, s naglaskom na jednostavnost protokola, kraće vrijeme izrade te povećanu preciznost međučeljusnih odnosa i funkcijske prilagodbe.

Ključne riječi: digitalna potpuna proteta; intraoralni skener; CAD/CAM tehnologija; 3D printanje

RESIDUAL METHYL METHACRYLATE CONTENT IN MATERIALS FOR DIGITAL DENTURE BASE FABRICATION

Josip Vuksić^{1,2*}, Josip Kranjčić^{1,2}

¹University Hospital Dubrava, Zagreb, Croatia; ²University of Zagreb School of Dental Medicine, Zagreb, Croatia

Aim of study: Pre-polymerised discs are used for the subtractive production of denture bases. The polymerisation process is carried out in the factory under controlled conditions and should result in a material with better mechanical properties compared to conventional heat-polymerised polymethyl methacrylate (PMMA) materials. The degree of monomer conversion should be higher, with better cross-linking between the polymer chains and with a lower residual monomer content. On the other hand, the materials for the additive manufacturing of denture bases are polymerized with light, in two steps, and the resins used are chemically significantly different from conventional PMMA materials. The purpose of this study was to investigate the residual monomer content of methyl methacrylate (MMA) in materials used for the digital fabrication of denture bases.

Materials and methods: Five different materials were used to produce the digital denture base: three for subtractive manufacturing and two for additive manufacturing. One conventional heat-polymerized PMMA material was used as a control group. The residual monomer content was determined using High Performance Liquid Chromatography (HPLC) method according to ISO specification 20795-1:2013.

Results: Compared to the control group, two subtractive manufacturing materials had a statistically significantly higher residual monomer content and did not meet the criteria of ISO specification 20795-1:2013, while the third subtractive manufacturing material had the lowest average value in this study. Both additive manufacturing materials showed lower values compared to the control group, but the difference was not statistically significant ($p < 0.05$).

Conclusion: The choice of denture base fabrication technology is not the determining factor for achieving lower MMA residual values, but rather the choice of the material itself.

Keywords: CAD CAM; Denture base; Methyl methacrylate

KOLIČINA ZAOSTATNOG METIL-METAKRILATA U MATERIJALIMA ZA DIGITALNU IZRADU BAZE PROTEZE

Josip Vuksić^{1,2*}, Josip Kranjčić^{1,2}

¹Klinička bolnica Dubrava, Zagreb, Hrvatska; ²Sveučilište u Zagrebu, Stomatološki fakultet, Zagreb, Hrvatska

Svrha: Polimerizacija diskova za subtraktivnu proizvodnju u izradi baze proteze provodi se u tvornički kontroliranim uvjetima te bi trebala rezultirati materijalom boljih mehaničkih svojstava u usporedbi s klasičnim toplu polimerizirajućim polimetilmetakrilatnim (PMMA) materijalima. Stupanj konverzije monomera trebao bi biti viši, uz bolje umrežavanje polimernih lanaca i s manjom količinom zaostatnog monomera. S druge strane, materijali za aditivnu proizvodnju u izradi baze proteze polimeriziraju se svjetlom u dva koraka te se koriste materijali koji su značajno različitog kemijskog sastava od PMMA materijala. Svrha ovog istraživanja bila je ispitati količinu zaostatnog monomera metilmetakrilata (MMA) u materijalima za izradu baze proteze digitalnim postupcima.

Materijali i metode: Korišteno je pet različitih materijala za digitalnu izradu baze proteze, tri za subtraktivnu proizvodnju i dva za aditivnu proizvodnju. Jedan PMMA materijal za toplu polimerizaciju je korišten kao kontrolna skupina. Za određivanje količine zaostatnog monomera korištena je metoda tekućinske kromatografije visokih performansi (HPLC) prema uputama iz ISO norme 20795-1:2013.

Rezultati: U usporedbi s kontrolnom skupinom, dva materijala za subtraktivnu proizvodnju imala su statistički značajnu višu vrijednost količine zaostatnog monomera te nisu zadovoljila kriterije iz ISO norme 20795-1:2013, dok je treći materijal za subtraktivnu proizvodnju pokazao najnižu prosječnu vrijednost u ovom ispitivanju. Oba materijala za aditivnu proizvodnju pokazala su niže vrijednosti u usporedbi s kontrolnom skupinom, ali ne i statistički značajne ($p < 0,05$).

Zaključak: Izbor tehnologije izrade baze proteze nije odlučujući kriterij za postizanje nižih vrijednosti količine zaostatnog MMA, nego je to izbor samog materijala.

Ključne riječi: CAD/CAM; baza proteze; metilmetakrilat

ORAL REHABILITATION OF A SEVERELY ATROPHIC MAXILLA AND MANDIBLE - A CASE REPORT

Josipa Lubina^{1*}, Maja Pavić², Leonard Francetić¹,
Dubravka Knezović Zlatarić^{1, 2}

¹Department of Prosthodontics, University Hospital Center Zagreb, Zagreb, Croatia; ²Department of Removable Prosthodontics, School of Dental Medicine, University of Zagreb, Zagreb, Croatia

Introduction: The rehabilitation of patients with severe alveolar ridge resorption requires careful planning and the application of contemporary technologies. This case report presents the rehabilitation of a patient with a partially dentate maxilla and a completely edentulous mandible. Due to the significant atrophy and reduced retention surfaces, a digitally planned and 3D-printed metal base was selected, integrated with the external component of a telescopic crown.

Case report: The patient presented to the Department of Removable Prosthodontics seeking complete oral rehabilitation as she was dissatisfied with her old, inadequate dentures, which lacked retention and stability. Clinical examination and orthopantomography revealed near-total resorption of the mandibular ridge and pronounced atrophy of the maxilla with two canines, one of which was indicated for extraction. To improve retention, a telescopic crown was planned on the remaining maxillary canine. Using a combination of digital and analogue techniques, a maxillary overdenture with a metal base retained by a telescopic crown on the upper right canine and a complete mandibular denture were fabricated. This approach provided satisfactory aesthetics and optimal function - including phonetics and mastication - and significantly improved the patient's quality of life.

Conclusion: By combining analogue and digital workflows, successful rehabilitation was achieved in an originally complex clinical situation. The digital design enabled optimal adaptation of the metal base to the anatomical conditions and improved the stability and accuracy of fit of the remaining abutment. The use of 3D-printed metal components contributes to greater accuracy and predictability in prosthetic fabrication. This case highlights the importance of integrating digital technologies in the treatment of complex edentulous cases.

Keywords: Overdenture; Telescopic crown; Digital dentistry; Metal base; 3D printing

ORALNA REHABILITACIJA IZRAZITO ATROFIČNE GORNJE I DONJE ČELJUSTI – PRIKAZ SLUČAJA

Josipa Lubina^{1*}, Maja Pavić², Leonard Francetić¹,
Dubravka Knezović Zlatarić^{1, 2}

¹Zavod za stomatološku protetiku, Klinika za stomatologiju, KBC Zagreb, Zagreb, Hrvatska; ²Zavod za mobilnu protetiku, Stomatološki fakultet Sveučilišta u Zagrebu, Zagreb, Hrvatska

Uvod: Rehabilitacija pacijenata s teškom resorpcijom grebena zahtijeva pažljivo planiranje i primjenu suvremenih tehnologija. Ovaj prikaz slučaja opisuje rehabilitaciju pacijentice s djelomično ozubljenom gornjom čeljusti i potpunom bezubošću u donjoj čeljusti. Zbog izražene atrofije i smanjene retencijske površine, odlučeno je primijeniti digitalno planiranu i 3D printanu metalnu bazu povezanu s vanjskim dijelom teleskopske krunice.

Prikaz slučaja: Pacijentica dolazi na Zavod za mobilnu protetiku zbog potpune oralne rehabilitacije, nezadovoljna starim neadekvatnim protezama koje nisu imale potrebnu retenciju ni stabilizaciju. Kliničkim pregledom i uvidom u ortopantomogram uočena je gotova potpuna resorpcija grebena donje čeljusti kao i izrazita atrofija gornje čeljusti uz prisustvo obaju očnjaka, od kojih je jedan indiciran za ekstrakciju. Na preostalom jedinom zubu gornje čeljusti u svrhu poboljšanja retencije odlučeno je napraviti teleskopsku krunicu. Kombinacijom digitalno-analognih postupaka izrađena je gornja pokrovna proteza s metalnom bazom retinirana teleskopskom krunicom na gornjem desnom očnjaku te donja potpuna proteza. Ovakav način izrade mobilnih nadomjestaka omogućuje zadovoljavajuću estetiku i optimalnu funkciju, uključujući fonaciju i žvakanje, što je u velikoj mjeri utjecalo na poboljšanje kvalitete života pacijentice.

Zaključak: Kombinacijom analognog i digitalnog pristupa dobivena je potpuno zadovoljavajuća rehabilitacija početno teške situacije. Digitalnim dizajnom omogućena je optimalna prilagodba metalnog dijela proteze anatomskoj situaciji, povećana stabilnost i precizna prilagodba na preostali potporni element. Zaključeno je da 3D printani metal donosi veću preciznost i predvidivost u izradi protetskih radova. Ovaj pristup ilustrira važnost integracije digitalnih tehnologija u rješenjima za kompleksne bezube slučajeve.

Ključne riječi: pokrovna proteza; teleskopska krunica; digitalna stomatologija; metalna baza; 3D printanje

PROSTHETICALLY GUIDED IMMEDIATE IMPLANT PLACEMENT WITH INDIVIDUAL SOFT TISSUE SHAPING – A CASE REPORT

Josipa Lubina^{1,2*}, Luka Lubina², Slaven Kozina³

¹Department of Prosthodontics, University Hospital Center Zagreb, Zagreb, Croatia; ²Luka Lubina Dental Medicine Practice, Knin, Croatia; ³Slaven Kozina Private Dental Laboratory, Trilj, Croatia

Introduction: The emergence profile and the stability of the peri-implant soft tissue are critical factors for the aesthetic and biological success of immediate implant placement. A well-contoured emergence profile allows for optimal gingival adaptation, the formation of a biological width and the preservation of the interdental papillae. This case report emphasizes the importance of using a customized healing abutment to achieve an optimal emergence profile.

Case report: The patient presented for prosthetic rehabilitation of the lower right first premolar, for which clinical and radiographic evaluation indicated extraction. It was decided to proceed with implant placement. After an atraumatic extraction, the goal was to preserve the existing alveolar ridge as much as possible and to shape an optimal soft tissue emergence profile for the future prosthetic restoration. Digital planning was performed using Real Guide software, which enabled precise segmentation of the tooth to be extracted, and provided important morphological data for implant positioning and the design of the temporary restoration. Based on the segmented data, a customized healing abutment was fabricated using CAD/CAM technology. The zirconia abutment was designed to replicate the natural cervical contour of the original tooth, allowing for controlled and predictable soft tissue formation during the healing phase. The customized healing abutment was temporarily fixed immediately after implant placement and the soft tissue was progressively shaped over several weeks to achieve the desired morphology. Follow-up examinations showed the preservation of the alveolar ridge volume, the stability of the peri-implant soft tissue and the formation of natural interdental papillae. The final restoration was performed after complete soft tissue maturation, achieving a high level of aesthetic integration and functional predictability.

Conclusion: Precise digital segmentation and the fabrication of a customized healing abutment enable controlled shaping of the emergence profile and soft tissue stability in immediate implant placement cases. This approach significantly enhances aesthetic predictability and long-term stability of peri-implant structures. The integration of digital technologies into daily clinical practice represents an important step towards improving the success of implant prosthetic therapy

Keywords: Emergence profile; Digital planning; Customized healing abutment

PROTETSKI VOĐENA IMEDIJATNA UGRADNJA IMPLANTATA UZ INDIVIDUALNO OBLIKOVANJE MEKIH TKIVA – PRIKAZ SLUČAJA

Josipa Lubina^{1,2*}, Luka Lubina², Slaven Kozina³

¹Zavod za stomatološku protetiku, Klinika za stomatologiju, KBC Zagreb, Zagreb, Hrvatska; ²Ordinacija dentalne medicine Luka Lubina, Knin, Hrvatska; ³Privatni zubotehnički laboratorij Slaven Kozina, Trilj, Hrvatska

Uvod: Izlazni profil i stabilnost mekih tkiva ključni su čimbenici za estetski i biološki uspjeh imedijatne implantacije. Pravilno oblikovan izlazni profil omogućuje optimalnu adaptaciju gingive, formiranje biološke širine implantata i očuvanje interdentalnih papila. Kroz ovaj prikaz slučaja naglašava se važnost uporabe individualiziranog *healing abutmenta* kod imedijatne ugradnje implantata u postizanju optimalnog izlaznog profila.

Prikaz slučaja: Pacijent dolazi na protetsku rehabilitaciju donjeg desnog prvog prekutnjaka, za koji je na temelju kliničkog i radiološkog pregleda postavljena indikacija za ekstrakciju te je donesena odluka o ugradnji implantata. Nakon atraumatske ekstrakcije, cilj je bio maksimalno očuvati postojeći alveolarni greben i oblikovati optimalan mekotkivni izlazni profil za budući protetski rad. Digitalno planiranje izvedeno je pomoću softvera Real Guide, gdje je izvršena precizna segmentacija zuba koji se ekstrahiraju, čime su dobiveni ključni morfološki podaci za postavljanje implantata i dizajn privremenog nadomjestka. Na temelju segmentiranih podataka izrađen je individualizirani *healing abutment* putem CAD/CAM tehnologije. Cirkonij-oksidni *abutment* oblikovan je tako da replicira prirodnu konturu cervikalne regije izvornog zuba, omogućujući na taj način kontrolirano i predvidljivo formiranje mekih tkiva u fazi cijeljenja. Individualizirani *healing abutment* privremeno je fiksiran odmah nakon implantacije, a meka tkiva su postupno modelirana prema željenoj morfologiji kroz nekoliko tjedana. Tijekom kontrolnih pregleda zabilježeno je očuvanje volumena alveolarnoga grebena, stabilnost periimplantatnih mekih tkiva te formiranje prirodnih interdentalnih papila. Finalna restauracija izvedena je nakon potpune maturacije tkiva, omogućujući visoku estetsku integraciju i funkcionalnu predvidljivost.

Zaključak: Precizna digitalna segmentacija i izrada individualiziranog *healing abutmenta* omogućuju kontrolirano oblikovanje izlaznog profila i stabilnost mekih tkiva kod imedijatne implantacije. Takav pristup značajno povećava estetsku predvidljivost i dugoročnu stabilnost periimplantatnih struktura. Integracija digitalnih tehnologija u svakodnevnu kliničku praksu predstavlja ključan korak prema unapređenju uspješnosti implantoprotetske terapije.

Ključne riječi: izlazni profil; digitalno planiranje; individualizirani *healing abutment*

IMPLANT-PROSTHETIC REHABILITATION OF A MANDIBULAR FIRST MOLAR USING A SURGICAL GUIDE – A CASE REPORT

Stanislava Senzel^{1*}, Robert Čelić², Matko Palac³, Gracia Čelić¹

¹Private Dental Polyclinic Ars Salutaris, Zagreb, Croatia; ²Department of Removable Prosthodontics, University of Zagreb, Croatia; ³Private Dental Laboratory Naturaldent, Zagreb, Croatia

Introduction: The aim of this case report is to demonstrate a fully digital surgical-prosthetic protocol for the replacement of a missing mandibular first molar, which involves the placement of a dental implant using a guided surgical template (immediate loading protocol) and the fabrication of a provisional acrylic crown, followed by a definitive screw-retained monolithic zirconia crown (prosthetic protocol).

Case report: The patient, a healthy 45-year-old female, had lost her mandibular first molar due to a vertical root fracture six years ago. A qualitative and quantitative analysis of the bone tissue (DICOM format) was performed with a 3D CBCT device (Planmeca Promax 3D Classic, Finland). A detailed intraoral scan of both dental arches (STL format) was created with the 3Shape Trios 5 intraoral scanner (3Shape A/S, Denmark) for the design of the surgical guide. The surgical guide was designed with ICX - Magellan X Real Guide 5.3 software (Medentis Medical, Germany) and printed on a 3D printer (NEXA 3D XIP, Ventura, USA) using a light-polymerising resin (Keyprint, USA). A dental implant (ICX Master Active 4.1x12.5 mm, Medentis Medical, Germany) was placed. The prosthetic protocol included digital impression taking using the Panda Smart intraoral scanner (Frey Technology, China) and an ICX scanbody MDK (Medentis Medical, Germany), followed by a virtual prosthetic design using ExoCAD Elefsina software (Exocad, Germany). The provisional restoration was milled from a PMMA disc, while the definitive monolithic zirconia crown was fabricated from a zirconia disc using an IMES-iCore milling machine (IMES-iCore, Germany).

Discussion: Recent scientific research leads to the conclusion that the use of customized surgical guides produced by CAD/CAM milling or 3D printing should be considered the gold standard for achieving high precision implant placement, following a prosthetically oriented treatment plan.

Conclusion: In contrast to conventional analogue workflows, the use of digital technologies for the fabrication of surgical guides for implant placement and the fabrication of implant-supported prosthetic restorations after the loss of a single posterior tooth offers numerous advantages, including better control and a reduction in the risk of biological and technical complications.

Keywords: Surgical guide; Dental implants; Provisional and definitive prosthetic restorations; Digital workflow

IMPLANTOPROTETSKA TERAPIJA NADOKNADE PRVOG DONJEG KUTNJAKA UPOTREBOM KIRURŠKE ŠABLONE – PRIKAZ SLUČAJA

Stanislava Senzel^{1*}, Robert Čelić², Matko Palac³, Gracia Čelić¹

¹Privatna dentalna poliklinika Ars Salutaris, Zagreb, Hrvatska; ²Zavod za mobilnu protetiku, Stomatološki fakultet Sveučilišta u Zagrebu, Zagreb, Hrvatska; ³Naturaldent zubotehnički laboratorij, Zagreb, Hrvatska

Uvod: Cilj prikaza slučaja je demonstrirati digitalni kirurško-protetski protokol nadoknade izgubljenog donjeg prvog kutnjaka koji se sastoji od ugradnje dentalnog implantata upotrebom kirurške šablone (imeditatni protokol opterećenja) i izrade privremene akrilatne, a potom i definitivne cirkonij-oksidge samostalne krunice retinirane vijkom (protetski protokol).

Prikaz slučaja: Pacijentica (45 godina), zdrava, gubitak prvog donjeg kutnjaka nastao zbog vertikalne frakture prije šest godina. Učinjena je kvalitativna i kvantitativna analiza koštanog tkiva (DICOM format) pomoću 3D CBCT uređaja (Planmeca Promax 3D Classic, Finska). Za izradu kirurške šablone bio je potreban detaljan intraoralni sken (STL format) obaju zubnih lukova skenerom 3Shape Trios 5 (3Shape A/S, Danska). Dizajniranje kirurške šablone provedeno je ICX - Magellan X Real Guide 5.3 softveru (Medentis Medical, Njemačka). Kirurška šablona je ispisana u 3D printeru (NEXA 3D XIP, Ventura, SAD) iz svjetlosnopolimerizirajuće smole (Keyprint, SAD). Ugrađen je dentalni implantat ICX Master Active 4,1x12,5 mm (Medentis Medical, Njemačka). Protetski protokol sastojao se od digitalnog otiskivanja (Panda Smart intraoralni skener, Frexy Technology, Kina) koristeći ICX scanbody MDK (Medentis, Njemačka) i virtualnog dizajniranja u programu ExoCAD Elefsina (Exocad, Njemačka). Privremeni nadomjestak izrađen je frezanjem iz PMMA diska, a definitivna keramička krunica iz monolitno cirkonij-oksidge diska u glodalici IMES iCore (IMES-iCore, Njemačka).

Rasprava: Nedavna znanstvena istraživanja dovode do zaključka da bi primjena individualiziranih kirurških šablona izrađenih CAD/CAM frezanjem ili 3D ispisom trebala biti smatrana zlatnim standardom za postizanje visoke preciznosti ugradnje implantata, u skladu s protetski vođenim planom terapije.

Zaključak: Za razliku od analognih radnih postupaka, upotreba digitalnih tehnologija za izradu kirurške šablone za ugradnju dentalnog implantata i izradu implantoprotetskog rada uslijed gubitka jednog bočnog zuba donosi brojne prednosti u pogledu bolje kontrole i smanjenja mogućnosti nastanka bioloških i tehničkih komplikacija.

Ključne riječi: kirurška šablona; dentalni implantati; privremeni i definitivni protetski rad; digitalni radni postupci

USE OF THE T-SCAN NOVUS 10 DEVICE IN QUANTITATIVE DIGITAL OCCLUSAL ANALYSIS

Stanislava Senzel^{1*}, Gracia Ćelić¹, Hrvoje Pezo¹, Robert Ćelić²

¹Private Dental Polyclinic Ars Salutaris, Zagreb, Croatia; ²Department of Removable Prosthodontics, University of Zagreb, Zagreb, Croatia

Introduction: The aim of this case report is to demonstrate the diagnostic and therapeutic value of T-scan analysis in a patient with natural dentition and clinical signs of temporomandibular disorder (TMD).

Case report: A 30-year-old female patient without systemic disease reported long-term orthodontic treatment and a bimaxillary osteotomy performed four years earlier. She complained of discomfort when chewing, a feeling of bite instability, pain in the masticatory muscles, and occasional joint noises (clicking) in the area of the temporomandibular joint. A qualitative occlusal analysis with 20-micron articulating paper and a quantitative digital analysis with the T-Scan Novus 10 device revealed premature centric occlusal contacts on the right side of the dental arches. A selective occlusal adjustment (equilibration) of these premature contacts was performed. Follow-up examinations two weeks later showed a significant improvement in the patient's subjective symptoms and a functionally balanced distribution of occlusal forces. Repeated T-scan analysis confirmed symmetrical force distribution and synchronised timing of occlusal contact activation.

Discussion: Unlike articulating paper, which merely visualises the presence of contact, the T-Scan Novus 10 device provides an objective, reproducible and quantitative evaluation of occlusion, including a precise measurement of initial contact timing, force distribution and dynamic changes during occlusal function. This type of analysis is particularly useful in the patients with functional disorders where clinical signs are inconspicuous, but the subjective symptoms are pronounced. In daily clinical practice, the application of this device enables more accurate treatment planning, faster diagnosis and improved patient communication through the clear visualisation of occlusal discrepancies (in combination with articulating paper), which ultimately improves the overall quality of dental care.

Conclusion: Quantitative digital occlusal analysis with the T-Scan Novus 10 device is a highly valuable diagnostic and therapeutic tool in modern dentistry. In the presented case, the elimination of premature occlusal contact led to a reduction in TMD symptoms and an improvement in functional occlusal stability.

Keywords: Digital quantitative occlusal analysis; T-Scan Novus 10 device; Premature occlusal contact; Selective occlusal adjustment

PRIMJENA T-SCAN NOVUS 10 UREĐAJA U KVANTITATIVNOJ DIGITALNOJ ANALIZI OKLUZIJE

Stanislava Senzel^{1*}, Gracia Ćelić¹, Hrvoje Pezo¹, Robert Ćelić²

¹Privatna dentalna poliklinika Ars Salutaris, Zagreb, Hrvatska; ²Zavod za mobilnu protetiku, Stomatološki fakultet Sveučilišta u Zagrebu, Zagreb, Hrvatska

Uvod: Cilj ovog prikaza slučaja je istaknuti dijagnostičku i terapijsku vrijednost T-Scan analize kod pacijenta s prirodnom denticijom i kliničkom slikom na temporomandibularnog poremećaja.

Prikaz slučaja: Pacijentica, 30 godina, bez sistemskih bolesti, navodi dugogodišnje ortodontsko liječenje, a prije četiri godine učinila je kirurški zahvat (bimaksilarnu osteotomiju). Javlja se zbog nelagode pri žvakanju, osjećaja nestabilnog zagriza, osjećaja boli u žvačnim mišićima i povremenih zglobnih zvukova (škljocanja) u području temporomandibularnih zglobova.

Provedena kvalitativna analiza tankim artikulacijskim papirom (20 mikrona) i kvantitativna analiza uređajem T-Scan Novus 10 pokazala je prerane centrične okluzijske kontakte s desne strane zubnih lukova. Terapijski je provedeno selektivno ubrušavanje preranih okluzijskih kontakata, a rezultati kontrole nakon dva tjedna pokazali su značajno poboljšanje subjektivnih simptoma i funkcionalno uravnoteženje okluzijske sile. Ponovna T-Scan analiza potvrdila je simetričnu distribuciju sila i usklađenu vremensku aktivaciju okluzijskih kontakata.

Rasprava: Za razliku od artikulacijskog papira, koji samo vizualizira kontakt, uređaj T-Scan Novus 10 omogućuje objektivnu, ponovljivu i kvantitativnu evaluaciju okluzije, uključujući precizno mjerenje vremena prvog kontakta, distribucije sila i dinamičkih promjena tijekom okluzijskih kontakata. Ova analiza posebno je korisna kod pacijenata s funkcijskim poremećajima, gdje su klinički znakovi minimalni, a subjektivne smetnje izražene. U svakodnevnoj kliničkoj praksi, primjena uređaja omogućuje preciznije planiranje terapije, bržu dijagnozu i bolju komunikaciju s pacijentom kroz vizualizaciju okluzijskih problema (zajedno s artikulacijskim papirom), čime se povećava ukupna kvaliteta skrbi u dentalnoj medicini.

Zaključak: Kvantitativna digitalna analiza okluzije pomoću uređaja T-Scan Novus 10 predstavlja iznimno vrijedan dijagnostički i terapijski alat u suvremenoj dentalnoj medicini. U prikazanom slučaju uklanjanje preranog okluzijskog kontakta dovelo je do ublažavanja simptoma temporomandibularnog poremećaja i funkcionalne stabilizacije okluzije.

Ključne riječi: digitalna kvantitativna analiza okluzije; T-Scan Novus 10 uređaj; prerani okluzijski kontakt; selektivno ubrušavanje

BITE FORCE AS A CLINICAL PARAMETER FOR EVALUATING MASTICATORY FUNCTION

Stanislava Senzel^{1*}, Gracia Ćelić¹, Robert Ćelić²

¹Private Dental Polyclinic Ars Salutaris, Zagreb, Croatia; ²Department of Removable Prosthodontics University of Zagreb, Zagreb, Croatia

Introduction: Bite force is an important clinical parameter when assessing the functionality of the masticatory system. In addition to its association with the integrity of the masticatory musculature and occlusal relationships, it also reflects the effectiveness of oral rehabilitation in prosthetic and implant-prosthetic patients. The aim of this presentation is to demonstrate the potential clinical applications of the Innobyte digital device for measuring maximum bite force in patients with natural dentition and various types of prosthetic and implant-prosthetic restorations in daily clinical practice.

Case reports: This case series presents the results of maximum bite force measurements in a patient with complete natural dentition who underwent occlusal adjustment (equilibration), in a patient with complete dentures, in a patient with fixed prosthetic restorations, and in a patient with implant-prosthetic restorations. The measurements were conducted using the Innobyte device (Kube Innovation, Canada). The results were quantitatively compared with normative values and analysed in relation to the type of restoration and the subjective feeling of occlusal stability. The measured results indicated a trend towards increased maximum bite force in the patient with pathological occlusion after occlusal adjustment, as well as in prosthetic and implant-prosthetic cases when compared to normative average values for the observed patient types.

Discussion: Bite force measurement using the Innobyte device enables an objective evaluation of the functional efficiency of oral rehabilitation and can serve as a diagnostic tool for treatment planning, assessment of prosthetic treatment outcomes, and patient motivation. Compared to other devices (e.g. T-Scan), the Innobyte provides absolute quantification of bite force, but no temporal distribution or topographic mapping of occlusal contacts.

Conclusion: The measurement of maximum bite force can be used as a tool to evaluate therapeutic progress, to monitor adaptation to new prosthetic restorations, and to assess the symmetry of occlusal loading. The Innobyte device has proven to be a practical and clinically valuable instrument that contributes to the objectification of functional parameters in contemporary oral rehabilitation.

Keywords: Bite force; Innobyte device; Natural dentition; Prosthetic and implant-prosthetic restorations; Masticatory system function

SILA ZAGRIZA KAO KLINIČKI PARAMETAR PROCJENE FUNKCIJE ŽVAČNOG SUSTAVA

Stanislava Senzel^{1*}, Gracia Ćelić¹, Robert Ćelić²

¹Privatna dentalna poliklinika Ars Salutaris, Zagreb, Hrvatska; ²Zavod za mobilnu protetiku, Stomatološki fakultet Sveučilišta u Zagrebu, Zagreb, Hrvatska

Uvod: Sila zagriza predstavlja važan klinički parametar u procjeni funkcionalnosti žvačnog sustava. Osim što je povezana s integritetom žvačne muskulature i okluzijskim odnosima, odražava i učinkovitost oralne rehabilitacije kod protetskih/implantoprotetskih pacijenata. Cilj ove prezentacije je prikazati mogućnosti primjene digitalnog uređaja Innobyte kojim se mjeri maksimalna sila zagriza kod pacijenata s prirodnim zubima i različitim vrstama protetskih/implantoprotetskih radova u svakodnevnoj kliničkoj praksi.

Prikaz slučajeva: U ovom prikazu slučajeva istaknuti su rezultati mjerenja maksimalne sile zagriza u pacijenta s potpunom prirodnom denticijom kod kojeg je provedeno usklađivanje okluzije (ubrušavanje); pacijenta s potpunom protezom; pacijenta s fiksnim protetskim radom i pacijenta s implantoprotetskim radom. Mjerenja maksimalne sile zagriza provedena su pomoću uređaja Innobyte (Kube Innovation, Kanada). Rezultati su kvantitativno uspoređeni s normativnim vrijednostima i analizirani u kontekstu tipa nadomjestka i subjektivnog osjećaja stabilnosti pri zagrizu. Izmjereni rezultati pokazali su tendenciju povećanja maksimalne sile zagriza u pacijenta s patološkom okluzijom nakon okluzijskog ubrušavanja, ali i kod protetskih i implantoprotetskih pacijenata s obzirom na prosječne normativne vrijednosti sile zagriza kod promatranih pacijenata.

Rasprava: Mjerenje sile zagriza pomoću uređaja Innobyte omogućuje objektivnu evaluaciju funkcionalne učinkovitosti oralne rehabilitacije te može poslužiti kao dijagnostički alat u planiranju terapije, evaluaciji uspjeha protetskog rada i motivaciji pacijenata. U usporedbi s drugim uređajima (npr. T-Scan), Innobyte nudi apsolutnu kvantifikaciju sile zagriza, ali ne i njezinu vremensku distribuciju ili topografsku raspodjelu okluzijskih kontakata.

Zaključak: Mjerenje maksimalne sile zagriza može se koristiti i kao alat za procjenu terapijskog napretka, praćenje adaptacije na nove protetske radove, kao i evaluaciju simetrije okluzijskog opterećenja. Uređaj Innobyte pokazao se kao praktično i klinički korisno sredstvo koje doprinosi objektivizaciji funkcionalnih parametara u suvremenoj oralnoj rehabilitaciji.

Ključne riječi: sila zagriza; uređaj Innobyte; prirodna denticija; protetski i implantoprotetski radovi; funkcija žvačnog sustava

MANDIBULAR OVERDENTURE SUPPORTED BY TWO NARROW TI-ZR IMPLANTS: EFFECTS OF MUCOSA THICKNESS AND SPLINTING

Nikola Petričević^{1*}, Asja Čelebić¹, Dario Puljić¹, Sanja Peršić-Kiršić¹

¹Department of Removable Prosthodontics, School of Dental Medicine; University of Zagreb, Zagreb, Croatia

Objectives: Currently, there is no data in the dental literature regarding the effects of different mucosal thickness and implant splinting on strain distribution when a mandibular overdenture (OD) is supported by two narrow Ti-Zr implants (2.4 mm in diameter) under different loading conditions. This study aimed to evaluate the influence of mucosal biotype (thin vs. thick) and splinting status on peri-implant and edentulous ridge strains during OD loading.

Material and methods: Two Ti-Zr implants (10 mm length, 2.4 mm diameter, Straumann) were placed in four identical models of an atrophic mandible simulating D2 bone. A 2.0 mm mucosal mask was applied to two models—one with non-splinted implants and one with splinted implants. The other two models received a 3.8 mm mucosal mask (representing a thick mucosal biotype), again with both splinted and non-splinted implant configurations. The mucosa was manufactured using low-viscosity addition-vinylpolysiloxane injected into digitally designed and 3D-printed moulds. Strain gauges (SGs) were positioned bilaterally at the first molar sites under mucosal mask and the OD saddles to measure edentulous ridge strains, while additional vestibular and lingual SGs were attached to each implant artificial bone to assess peri-implant strains. The ODs were loaded bilaterally, unilaterally, and anteriorly with forces ranging from 50 to 300 N, repeated 15 times. Data were analyzed using descriptive statistics and multifactorial ANOVA.

Results: The highest peri-implant strains were observed under unilateral OD loading with high loading forces in the 2 mm mucosa group, approaching levels that may exceed the bone's reparative capacity ($p < 0.01$), in both splinted and non-splinted configurations. Bilateral loading also elicited high strain values. Splinting of two implants led to a statistically significant, though modest, reduction in peri-implant strains—but only when thick mucosa (3.8 mm) was present ($p < 0.05$). Nevertheless, strain levels still exceeded 2000 microstrains under higher loading forces. In the distal edentulous regions, both splinting and increased mucosal thickness significantly reduced strain levels ($p < 0.01$); however, all denture loading conditions produced strains within a range unlikely to impair bone healing, and thus the reductions are not considered clinically significant.

Conclusions: The use of two narrow Ti-Zr implants (2.4 mm diameter) to support mandibular ODs is advisable only in patients with low to moderate masticatory forces and a thicker mucosal biotype. Implant splinting reduced peri-implant strains only in the presence of thick mucosa. For patients with higher occlusal loads (e.g., opposing natural dentition), neither splinted nor non-splinted configurations can be recommended with confidence for long-term success, although splinting may offer some benefits when mucosa is sufficiently thick.

Keywords: Implant splinting; Mandibular overdenture; Mucosal thickness; Peri-implant strains; Ti-Zr narrow implants

MANDIBULARNA POKROVNA PROTEZA RETINIRANA S DVA USKA TI-ZR IMPLANTATA: UTJECAJ DEBLJINE SLUZNICE I MEĐUSOBNOG POVEZIVANJA IMPLANTATA

Nikola Petričević^{1*}, Asja Čelebić¹, Dario Puljić¹, Sanja Peršić-Kiršić¹

¹Zavod za mobilnu protetiku, Stomatološki fakultet Sveučilišta u Zagrebu, Zagreb, Hrvatska

Uvod i cilj: U dentalnoj literaturi nema dostupnih podataka o učincima debljine sluznice i međusobnog povezivanja implantata na naprezanja kada mandibularnu pokrovnu protezu (OD) retiniraju dva uska Ti-Zr implantata (promjera 2,4 mm). Cilj ovog istraživanja bio je ispitati utjecaj tankog i debelog biotipa sluznice te statusa povezivanja implantata na naprezanja oko implantata i u bezubom području.

Materijali i metode: Dva Ti-Zr implantata (visine 10 mm, širine 2,4 mm, Straumann) postavljena su u četiri identična modela atrofirane mandibule (svojstva kosti D2). Maska koja predstavlja sluznicu debljine 2,0 mm pričvršćena je na dva modela (jedan s pojedinačno postavljenim implantatima, drugi s međusobno povezanim implantatima), dok je maska debljine 3,8 mm (debeli biotip) postavljena na preostala dva modela (također jedan s pojedinačnim, drugi s povezanim implantatima). Sluznica je predstavljena niskoviskoznim adicijskim vinilpolisiloksanom injiciranim u virtualno dizajnirane i 3D ispisane kalupe. Mjerna rešetka (SG) postavljena ispod proteze na mjestu prvih molara (obostrano) mjerila je naprezanja u bezubom grebenu. Mjerne rešetke pričvršćene vestibularno i oralno na svaki implantat bilježile su naprezanja oko implantata. Proteze su bile opterećivane bilateralno, unilateralno i frontalno s opterećenjima od 50 do 300 N. Svako opterećenje ponavljano je 15 puta. Statistička analiza uključivala je opisnu statistiku i multifaktorsku analizu varijance (ANOVA).

Rezultati: Najveća periimplantna naprezanja zabilježena su pri velikim silama opterećenja tijekom unilateralnog opterećenja kod maske debljine 2 mm, gotovo prelazeći granice reparacijskih mogućnosti kosti ($p < 0,01$), i kod pojedinačnih i kod povezanih implantata. Bilateralna opterećenja također su izazvala visoka naprezanja, viša na opterećenoj strani. Povezivanje implantata smanjilo je naprezanja samo kada je bila prisutna deblja sluznica (3,8 mm), iako su naprezanja i tada bila iznad 2000 mikrodeformacija pri visokim silama opterećenja. I povezivanje implantata i prisutnost deblje sluznice smanjili su naprezanja u distalnom bezubom području, koja su bila niža od periimplantnih naprezanja i nisu ugrožavala reparaciju kosti.

Zaključci: Izrada pokrovne proteze podržane s dva Ti-Zr uska implantata promjera 2,4 mm može se preporučiti samo pri malim ili prosječnim žvačnim silama i uz prisutnost deblje sluznice. Povezivanje implantata smanjilo je naprezanja samo kada je bila prisutna deblja sluznica. Kada se predviđaju veće sile opterećenja (npr. prirodni zubi u suprotnoj čeljusti), ne može se dati dugoročna klinička garancija ni za pojedinačne ni za povezane implantate, iako su dva povezana implantata povoljnija opcija u slučaju deblje sluznice.

Ključne riječi: povezivanje implantata; mandibularna pokrovna proteza; debljina sluznice; periimplantatna mikronaprezanja; uski Ti-Zr implantati

EFFECT OF MUCOSAL THICKNESS ON PERI-IMPLANT AND DISTAL RIDGE MICROSTRAINS UNDER MANDIBULAR OVERDENTURES ON NARROW TI-ZR IMPLANTS: IN VITRO STUDY

Dario Puljić^{1*}, Asja Čelebić¹, Nikola Petričević¹

¹Department of Removable Prosthodontics, School of Dental Medicine, University of Zagreb, Zagreb, Croatia

Purpose: Marginal bone loss in implants occurs due to infection or excessive strains (or a combination). Excessive stress and strain on the bone under the denture base leads to resorption of the alveolar ridge. There are limited publications on clinical findings on the new single-piece Ti85Zr15 narrow category 1 implants. A thick mucosal biotype reduces bone loss around implants supporting fixed restorations, but there is no data on the effect of mucosal thickness on peri-implant bone loss in overdentures (OD). The aim was to examine the effect of mucosal thickness (thin or thick biotype) on strains in the mandibular bone with different numbers of single-unit Ti-Zr narrow implants supporting OD.

Materials and methods: Ti-Zr implants (Roxolid alloy, 10 mm height, 2.4 mm width, Straumann) were placed in identical models of atrophied mandible (D2 bone density properties). There were 4 models depending on the number of implants (1 or 3). A mask representing a mucosa of 2.0 mm thickness was attached to 2 models, and a mask of 3.8 mm (thick biotype) to the other 2 models. The mucosa (low-viscosity addition vinylpolysiloxane) was injected in virtually designed and printed molds. Strain-gauges (SG) were glued to the ridge under the OD at the site of the first molar (bilaterally) to measure strains during OD loading. SGs were also glued both vestibularly and orally to each implant to measure peri-implant stress (Figure 1, left). The ODs retained on the implants were loaded bilaterally, unilaterally and anteriorly with forces 50-300 N (Figure 1 right). Loadings were repeated 15 times. Statistical analysis included descriptive statistics and multifactorial ANOVA.

Results: Strains increased at higher forces ($p < 0.01$). In one implant situation, the highest peri-implant microstrains were recorded during anterior loading, and in 3 implants, microstrains were highest in unilateral posterior OD loading. Smaller microstrains were measured in the distal areas of the edentulous ridge with thicker mucosa (3.8 mm; $p < 0.01$). In one implant situation (in the midline of the mandible), mucosal thickness did not affect peri-implant stresses ($p < 0.05$), nor did it affect with 3 implants retaining the OD.

Conclusions: Strains increase at higher forces. Mucosal thickness reduces strains in the edentulous bone under the OD saddles. Peri-implant strains did not change significantly depending on the mucosal biotype.

Keywords: Microstrains; Edentulous ridge; Mandibular overdenture; Mucosal thickness; Narrow implants

UTJECAJ DEBLJINE SLUZNICE NA PERIIMPLANTATNA I DISTALNA MIKRONAPREZANJA ISPOD MANDIBULARNIH POKROVNIH PROTEZA NA USKIM TI-ZR IMPLANTATIMA: IN VITRO STUDIJA

Dario Puljić^{1*}, Asja Čelebić¹, Nikola Petričević¹

¹Zavod za mobilnu protetiku, Stomatološki fakultet Sveučilišta u Zagrebu, Zagreb, Hrvatska

Svrha: Marginalni gubitak kosti oko implantata nastaje zbog infekcije ili prevelikog naprezanja (ili kombinacijom). Preveliki stres i naprezanje kosti ispod baze proteze dovodi do resorpcije grebena. O novim Ti85Zr15 jednodijelnim uskim implantatima kategorije 1 nema objavljenih kliničkih spoznaja. Deblji biotip mukoze smanjuje gubitak kosti oko implantata koji nose fiksne radove, ali o utjecaju debljine mukoze nema podataka kod pokrovnih proteza (PP). Svrha je bila ispitati utjecaj debljine sluznice (tanki ili debeli biotip) na naprezanja pri različitom broju ugrađenih samostojećih Ti-Zr uskih implantata u mandibuli.

Materijali i metode: Ti-Zr implantati (Roxolid legura, visina 10 mm, širina 2,4 mm, Straumann) postavljeni su u identične modele atrofirane mandibule (svojstva gustoće kosti D2). Postojala su 4 modela ovisno o broju implantata (1 ili 3). Na 2 modela bila je pričvršćena maska koja predstavlja sluznicu debljine 2,0 mm, a na preostala 2 modela maska debljine 3,8 mm (debeli biotip). Sluznica (vinilpolisiloksan niske viskoznosti) ubrizgana je u virtualno dizajnirane i printane kalupe. Elektrootporne vrpce (SG) zalijepljene su na greben ispod PP na mjestu prvog kutnjaka (obostrano) radi mjerenja naprezanja tijekom opterećenja PP-a. SG senzori također su zalijepljeni vestibularno i oralno na svaki implantat radi mjerenja periimplantatnog stresa. PP pričvršćene na implantatima opterećivane su bilateralno, unilateralno i anteriorno sa silama od 50–300 N (slika 1, desno). Opterećenja su ponovljena 15 puta. Statistička analiza uključivala je deskriptivnu statistiku i multifaktorsku ANOVA analizu.

Rezultati: Naprezanja su se povećavala pri većim silama ($p < 0.01$). Kod situacije s jednim implantatom, najveća periimplantatna mikro-naprezanja zabilježena su pri anteriornom opterećenju, dok su kod tri implantata mikro-naprezanja bila najveća pri unilateralnom stražnjem opterećenju PP-a. Manja mikro-naprezanja izmjerena su u distalnim područjima bezubog grebena s debljom sluznicom (3,8 mm; $p < 0.01$). U situaciji s jednim implantatom (u središnjoj liniji mandibule), debljina sluznice nije utjecala na periimplantacijski stres ($p < 0.05$), niti je imala utjecaj u situaciji s 3 implantata koji podupiru PP.

Zaključci: Naprezanja se povećavaju pri većim silama. Deblja sluznica smanjuje naprezanja u bezuboj kosti ispod sedla PP-a. Periimplantatna naprezanja ne razlikuju se značajno ovisno o biotipu sluznice.

Ključne riječi: mikronaprezanja; bezubi greben; mandibularna pokrovna proteza; debljina sluznice; uski implantati

ANALOG AND DIGITAL SUPPORT IN DENTISTRY: STABILIZATION SPLINT FABRICATION

Tea Arambašić^{1*}, Lucija Kraljević¹, Nikolina Lipanović Šestanović², Tea Galić³

¹Study of Dental Medicine, University of Split School of Medicine, Split, Croatia; ²Private Dental Laboratory Nikolina Lipanović Šestanović, Split, Croatia; ³Department of Prosthodontics, Study of Dental Medicine, University of Split School of Medicine, Split, Croatia

Objectives: Stabilization splints are an essential therapeutic modality in dental medicine, particularly in the management of temporomandibular disorders (TMD). Traditionally, splints were made using analogue methods that involved taking impressions, fabricating plaster models and manual processing in a dental laboratory. With advances in digital technology and the widespread adoption of CAD/CAM systems, digital workflows for splint fabrication have become increasingly prevalent. The aim of this study is to compare the fabrication processes and clinical outcomes of analogue and digital stabilisation splints.

Materials and methods: A female patient presented with a two-year history of mandibular deviation and clicking sounds during wide mouth opening. After clinical evaluation, the fabrication of both analogue and digital stabilization splints was indicated.

Analogue workflow: An alginate impression was taken to create plaster models. The upper model was marked for the future splint margin. An interocclusal wax recording was obtained in centric relation using a customised retainer. This record defined both the mandibular position and vertical dimension of the splint. The wax-up was sent to the laboratory for fabrication of an acrylic stabilization splint.

Digital workflow: Intraoral scanning was performed (Trios 3 Wireless, 3Shape, Denmark) with the patient wearing a retainer fitted with an interocclusal wax record in centric relation. The digital impressions were processed with CAD software (Ceramill Mind, Amann Girrbach, Austria) to design the splint. The design was printed (Asiga Max 2, Cosmodent, Germany) using a biocompatible resin (KeySplint Hard, Keystone Industries, Germany). After finalisation and polishing, the splint was clinically tested, the occlusal conditions were adjusted and the splint was delivered.

Results: After two weeks of use, the patient reported a reduction in TMD symptoms. The patient reported no noticeable difference between the analogue and digitally fabricated splint in terms of comfort or function.

Conclusion: The choice between analogue and digital fabrication methods depends on the clinician's expertise, resources and available technology. Digital fabrication offers advantages in terms of precision, reduced production time and the ability to archive and reproduce splints without the need for new impressions or bite registrations.

Keywords: Temporomandibular disorders; Stabilization splint; CAD/CAM technology

ANALOGNO I DIGITALNO U SLUŽBI POTPORE: IZRADA STABILIZACIJSKE UDLAGE

Tea Arambašić^{1*}, Lucija Kraljević¹, Nikolina Lipanović Šestanović², Tea Galić³

¹Studij Dentalna medicina, Medicinski fakultet Sveučilišta u Splitu, Split, Hrvatska; ²Privatni dentalni laboratorij Nikolina Lipanović Šestanović, Split, Hrvatska; ³Katedra za stomatološku protetiku, Medicinski fakultet Sveučilišta u Splitu, Split, Hrvatska

Svrha rada: Stabilizacijska udlaga predstavlja važno terapijsko sredstvo u dentalnoj medicini, osobito u liječenju temporomandibularnih poremećaja (TMP). Tradicionalno, izrada ovih udlaga provodi se analognim metodama koje uključuju uzimanje otisaka, izradu sadrenih modela i ručnu izradu u dentalnom laboratoriju. Razvojem digitalne tehnologije i sve većom primjenom CAD/CAM sustava u stomatologiji, pojavio se novi, digitalni način izrade stabilizacijskih udlaga. Svrha rada je prikazati proces izrade analogne i digitalne stabilizacijske udlage.

Materijali i metode: Pacijentica dvije godine osjeti pomak mandibule u stranu kad jače otvara usta te čuje škljocanje pri istom pokretu. Nakon pregleda, odlučuje se napraviti stabilizacijska udlaga, analogna i digitalna. **Analogni način:** Izrada započinje otiskom alginatom prema kojem se rade sadreni modeli. Na gornjem sadrenom modelu ucrta se granica buduće udlage. U laboratoriju se izrađuje *retainer* za uzimanje međučeljusnog registrata pomoću voska, u položaju centrične relacije. Voštani registrat određuje položaj mandibule, ali ujedno i vertikalnu dimenziju udlage. Udlaga s voštanim zagrizom šalje se u laboratorij i izrađuje se akrilatna stabilizacijska udlaga.

Digitalni način: Izrada započinje skeniranjem intraoralnim skenerom (Trios 3 Wireless, 3Shape, Copenhagen, Danska) pacijentice s *retainerom* na kojem su već postavljeni voštani bedemi u položaju centrične relacije. Prema digitalnom otisku u laboratoriju tehničar je u CAD softveru (Ceramill Mind CAD software, Amann Girrbach, Mäder, Austrija) izradio digitalni model udlage koja je isprintana (Asiga Max 2, Cosmodent, Erfurt, Njemačka) u biokompatibilnoj smoli (KeySplint Hard, KeyPrint, Keystone Industries GmbH, Singen, Njemačka). Nakon obrade i poliranja udlaga je isprobana na pacijentici, korigirani su okluzijski odnosi i predana je za korištenje.

Rezultati: Nakon dva tjedna korištenja stabilizacijske udlage simptomi TMP-a su se smanjili. Pacijentica nije osjetila razliku pri korištenju analogno i digitalno izrađene udlage.

Zaključak: Izbor između analogne i digitalne tehnike uvelike ovisi o individualnim mogućnostima, znanju, iskustvu i dostupnoj opremi stomatologa, iako digitalni način izrade, osim preciznosti i manjeg utroška vremena, omogućava arhiviranje dizajnirane udlage i mogućnost ponovne izrade bez uzimanja novog otiska i međučeljusnog registrata.

Ključne riječi: temporomandibularni poremećaji; stabilizacijska udlaga; CAD/CAM sustav

FABRICATION OF TEMPORARY GLASS FIBER-REINFORCED COMPOSITE BRIDGE

Dorian Dubravec^{1*}, Duje Bilobrk¹, Nikolina Lešić^{2,3}, Davor Seifert², Tea Galić³

¹Study of Dental Medicine, University of Split School of Medicine, Split, Croatia; ²Dentalna medicina Seifert, d.o.o., Zagreb, Croatia; ³Department of Prosthodontics, Study of Dental Medicine, University of Split School of Medicine, Split, Croatia

Objectives: Temporary prosthetic restorations play a crucial role in preserving the functionality, aesthetics and health of oral tissues while preparing for a permanent prosthetic restoration. With the advancement of materials and technologies, glass fibres are increasingly used in fixed prosthetics due to their strength, flexibility and aesthetic properties. This paper presents the fabrication of a temporary glass fibre-reinforced composite bridge, focusing on the clinical application, advantages and challenges compared to traditional methods.

Materials and methods: The patient presented with a root perforation of tooth 22 (*fausse-route*), which occurred during the revision of an endodontic filling, making further treatment impossible and indicating the need for extraction. Prior to extraction, an alginate impression of the maxilla was taken to fabricate a temporary bridge and a stone cast was made. The cast was then moulded with a transparent silicone material (Exaclear, GC, GC EUROPE, Leuven, Belgium) to create a silicone key that captured the reference morphology of tooth 22. Tooth 22 was reduced on the model to make room for the replacement tooth, which was to be made of composite material. Glass fibres (everStick C&B, GC, GC EUROPE, Leuven, Belgium) were placed as a support structure and the composite material (G-aenial Universal Injectable, GC, GC EUROPE, Leuven, Belgium) was injected through the transparent silicone key to reconstruct tooth 22 directly on the cast. The neighbouring teeth (21 and 23) were completely preserved. The fabricated temporary bridge was then transferred to the patient's mouth and fixed using the adhesive technique with composite cement (GC Link Force, GC, GC EUROPE, Leuven, Belgium).

Results: The temporary glass fibre-reinforced composite bridge, fabricated using this method, provides a satisfactory aesthetic solution during the healing phase and further implant-prosthetic therapy. The adhesive cementation technique enabled bonding of the bridge to the unprepared adjacent teeth.

Conclusion: The use of glass fibres in the fabrication of temporary bridges enables a fast, aesthetically pleasing and functionally effective solution with minimal invasiveness. This approach is particularly beneficial in cases where permanent prosthetic rehabilitation is not immediately possible. The method is easy to perform and represents a reliable temporary option in everyday clinical practice.

Keywords: Glass fibre-reinforced composite; Temporary bridge; Adhesive cementation

IZRADA PRIVREMENOG KOMPOZITNOG MOSTA OJAČANOG STAKLENIM VLAKNIMA

Dorian Dubravec^{1*}, Duje Bilobrk¹, Nikolina Lešić^{2,3}, Davor Seifert², Tea Galić³

¹Studij Dentalna medicina, Medicinski fakultet Sveučilišta u Splitu, Split, Hrvatska; ²Dentalna medicina Seifert, d.o.o., Zagreb, Hrvatska; ³Katedra za stomatološku protetiku, Medicinski fakultet Sveučilišta u Splitu, Split, Hrvatska

Svrha rada: Privremeni protetički nadomjestci predstavljaju neizostavan segment suvremene dentalne terapije s ključnom ulogom u očuvanju funkcionalnosti, estetike i zdravlja oralnih tkiva tijekom pripreme za trajne protetičke radove. U kontekstu današnjeg razvoja materijala i tehnologija, staklena vlakna postaju sve prisutniji materijal izbora u dentalnoj protetici, nudeći kombinaciju čvrstoće, fleksibilnosti i estetike. Svrha ovog rada je prikazati postupak izrade privremenog mosta ojačanog staklenim vlaknima koji osigurava estetiku, funkcionalnost i zaštitu okolnih struktura s posebnim naglaskom na kliničku primjenjivost, prednosti i izazove u usporedbi s tradicionalnim metodama.

Materijali i metode: Pacijentica dolazi s perforacijom korijena zuba 22 (*fausse-route*) koji je nastao tijekom revizije endodontskog punjenja, čime je onemogućena daljnja terapija te je zub indiciran za ekstrakciju. Prije ekstrakcije, a u cilju izrade privremenog mosta, uzet je otisak gornje čeljusti alginatom te je izrađen sadreni odljev. Sadreni odljev je otisnut prozirnim silikonskim materijalom za izradu silikonskog ključa (Exaclear, GC, GC EUROPE, Leuven, Belgija) kojim je zabilježena referentna morfologija zuba 22. Na modelu je zub 22 radiran, čime je stvoren prostor za izradu zamjenskog zuba iz kompozitnog materijala. Staklena vlakna (everStick C&B, GC, GC EUROPE, Leuven, Belgija) postavljena su kao potporna struktura, a kompozitni materijal (G-aenial Universal Injectable, GC, GC EUROPE, Leuven, Belgija) injektiran je kroz prozirni silikonski ključ kako bi se rekonstruirao zub 22 direktno na odljevu. Susjedni zubi (zub 21 i 23) očuvani su u potpunosti jer nisu brušeni. Tako izrađeni privremeni most prenesen je u pacijentova usta i fiksiran adhezijskom tehnikom kompozitnim cementom (GC link Force, GC, GC EUROPE, Leuven, Belgija).

Rezultati: Na ovaj način izrađen privremeni kompozitni most ojačan staklenim vlaknima predstavlja zadovoljavajuće estetsko rješenje kroz period zarastanja rane i daljnje implantoprotetske terapije. Adhezijska tehnika cementiranja omogućila je lijepljenje mosta na nebrušene susjedne zube.

Zaključak: Uporaba staklenih vlakana u izradi privremenih mostova omogućuje brzo, estetski i funkcionalno učinkovito rješenje uz minimalnu invazivnost. Takav pristup osobito je koristan u slučajevima kad trajna protetička rehabilitacija nije odmah moguća. Metodu je jednostavno izvesti te predstavlja pouzdanu privremenu opciju u svakodnevnoj kliničkoj praksi.

Ključne riječi: kompozit; staklena vlakna; privremeni most; adhezivno cementiranje

A PRECISELY BEAUTIFUL SMILE: DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION USING VENEERS

Andela Gravić^{1*}, Marijan Nikolić¹, Tihana Reić², Tea Galić³

¹Study of Dental Medicine, University of Split School of Medicine, Split, Croatia; ²Dental Clinic DR. VARNICA, Split, Croatia; ³Department of Prosthodontics, Study of Dental Medicine, University of Split School of Medicine, Split, Croatia

Objectives: Aesthetic veneers, particularly in the anterior region, present both an opportunity and a challenge. Among the various materials, leucite-reinforced glass-ceramics have proven to be a reliable option due to their translucency, strength and ability to mimic enamel. This case report describes the clinical workflow and outcome of replacing composite veneers with leucite-reinforced ceramic veneers in a highly aesthetic zone.

Materials and methods: A female patient presented to the dental clinic with the wish to replace old, unaesthetic composite veneers. After a clinical and photographic evaluation, the treatment plan involved fabrication of leucite-reinforced ceramic veneers for teeth 12, 11, 21 and 22. Before the old veneers were removed, a digital scan (Trios 3 Wireless, 3Shape, Copenhagen, Denmark) of the initial state was taken using an intraoral scanner. The composite veneers were removed and the teeth were prepared for the ceramic veneers. Retraction cords were placed for soft tissue management. A second digital impression of the prepared teeth was taken and sent to the dental laboratory. Colour matching was completed during the same appointment. The temporary veneers were fabricated from biocompatible resin (Detax FREEPRINT temp UV, Ivoclar Digital, Ivoclar Vivadent, Shaan, Lichenstein) and checked for fit and patient satisfaction. After checking, they were cemented using a temporary cement (Dentotemp, ITENA Clinical, Villepinte, France). The final restorations were fabricated from leucite-reinforced glass-ceramics (IPS Empress CAD, Ivoclar Vivadent, Shaan, Lichenstein). During the try-in appointment, the marginal adaptation and aesthetics were assessed. Once this was confirmed, the veneers were adhesively cemented with composite resin cement (Variolink Esthetic LC, Ivoclar Vivadent, Shaan, Lichenstein).

Results: The patient's aesthetic expectations were fully met. The leucite-reinforced ceramic veneers showed excellent marginal adaptation, colour matching, and an overall natural appearance. No complications were observed during or after the procedure.

Conclusions: Leucite-reinforced glass-ceramics is a highly effective material for aesthetic anterior restorations that has excellent physical and aesthetic properties. It is the material of choice in cases with high aesthetic demands, especially when supported by digital workflows and adhesive cementation techniques.

Keywords: Veneers; Leucite-reinforced glass-ceramics; Aesthetic restorations

PRECIZNO LIJEP OSMIJEH: DIGITALNA TRANSFORMACIJA LJUSKICAMA

Andela Gravić^{1*}, Marijan Nikolić¹, Tihana Reić², Tea Galić³

¹Studij Dentalna medicina, Medicinski fakultet Sveučilišta u Splitu, Split, Hrvatska; ²Stomatološka poliklinika DR. VARNICA, Split, Hrvatska; ³Katedra za stomatološku protetiku, Medicinski fakultet Sveučilišta u Splitu, Split, Hrvatska

Svrha rada: Estetske ljuskice od staklokeramike ojačane leucitima često se koriste kao materijal izbora zbog sposobnosti imitacije prirodnog zuba uz preciznost izrade i minimalnu invazivnost. To ih čini idealnim rješenjem za estetsku rehabilitaciju prednjeg segmenta. Svrha ovog rada je prikazati klinički postupak zamjene dotrajalih kompozitnih ljuskica novima od staklokeramike ojačane leucitima u pacijenta s visokim estetskim zahtjevima.

Materijali i metode: Pacijentica dolazi u ordinaciju dentalne medicine zbog zamjene starih, estetski neodgovarajućih kompozitnih ljuskica. Kako bi se ispunili estetski zahtjevi pacijentice, odlučuje se izraditi keramičke ljuskice na zubima 12, 11, 21, 22. Prije uklanjanja starih kompozitnih ljuskica, uzima se digitalni otisak (Trios 3 Wireless, 3Shape, Copenhagen, Danska) početnog stanja, nakon čega se pristupa uklanjanju starih kompozitnih ljuskica te brušenju za keramičke ljuskice. Nakon brušenja zubi, postavljeni su retrakcijski konci te je uzet digitalni otisak koji je poslan u dentalni laboratorij. U istom posjetu izabrana je odgovarajuća boja budućih keramičkih ljuskica. Slijedi proba laboratorijski izrađenih privremenih ljuskica (Detax FREEPRINT temp UV, Ivoclar Digital, Ivoclar Vivadent, Shaan, Lihenštajn). Provjerava se dosjed ljuskica na rubove preparacije te estetski zahtjevi pacijentice. Privremene ljuskice cementiraju se privremenim cementom (Dentotemp, ITENA Clinical, Villepinte, Francuska). Izrađene su gotove ljuskice od staklokeramike ojačane leucitima (IPS Empress CAD, Ivoclar Vivadent, Shaan, Lihenštajn). Tijekom probe gotovih keramičkih ljuskica, provjerava se rubni dosjed te estetika samog rada. Ljuskice se adhezijski cementiraju koristeći trajni kompozitni cement (Variolink Estetic LC, Ivoclar Vivadent, Shaan, Lihenštajn).

Rezultati: Navedeni klinički slučaj prikazuje uspješnu transformaciju osmijeha pacijentice u estetskoj zoni. Keramičke ljuskice ojačane leucitom pokazale su izvrsnu marginalnu prilagodbu, usklađenost boje i cjelokupni prirodan izgled. Nisu uočene komplikacije tijekom ili nakon postupka.

Zaključak: Staklokeramika ojačana leucitima, zahvaljujući dobrim fizičkim svojstvima uz izvrsna optička svojstva, predstavlja izuzetan materijal za estetske radove u prednjoj zoni te je materijal izbora za estetske ljuskice, posebno kada je podržano digitalnim tijekom rada i tehnikom adhezivnog cementiranja.

Ključne riječi: ljuskice; staklokeramika ojačana leucitima; estetska zona

AESTHETIC TRANSFORMATION OF A "VAMPIRE LATERAL INCISORS"

Lucija Kraljević^{1*}, Tea Arambašić¹, Darija Jelović¹, Tea Galić²

¹Study of Dental Medicine, University of Split School of Medicine, Split, Croatia; ²Department of Prosthodontics, Study of Dental Medicine, University of Split School of Medicine, Split, Croatia

Objectives: Peg-shaped teeth represent a morphological anomaly, typically affecting the maxillary lateral incisors, falling under the developmental anomaly known as microdontia. Peg laterals have a significant impact on the aesthetic appearance, especially in the smile zone, where symmetry and proportions of the teeth are essential. The management of such anomalies often involves restorative and prosthetic techniques aimed at improving the size, shape and harmony of the tooth within the dental arch. Contemporary prosthetic dentistry offers several solutions, including full crowns, ceramic veneers, and composite veneers. This case report presents the digital design and fabrication of a composite veneer during preclinical exercises, simulating real clinical conditions at the Dental Academicus Center for Dental Medicine, a department of the University of Split School of Medicine.

Materials and Methods: The procedure was conducted on a simulation phantom head.

- Initial Scan: A digital impression of the initial condition was taken using an intraoral scanner (Trios 3 Wireless, 3Shape, Copenhagen, Denmark).
- Tooth Preparation: The lateral incisor was prepared using the window preparation technique, preserving the palatal and incisal surfaces for a conservative restoration.
- Shade Selection and Second Scan: Following preparation, the appropriate tooth shade (A2) was selected and a second digital impression was captured.
- CAD Design: The veneer was designed using Ceramill Mind CAD software (Amann Girrbach, Mäder, Austria) to match the curvature and aesthetics of the dental arch.
- CAM Milling: The veneer was milled from a composite block (Vita ENAMIC HT, VITA Zahnfabrik, Bad Säckingen, Germany) using the CORiTEC 250i PRO CAM unit (imes-icore GmbH, Hessen, Germany).
- Try-In and Cementation: After checking the fit and aesthetics during the try-in, the veneer was permanently cemented using Variolink Esthetic LC cement (Ivoclar Vivadent, Schaan, Liechtenstein).

Results: The fabricated composite veneer successfully restored the natural proportions and contours of the peg-shaped lateral incisor with the minimally invasive preparation approach.

Conclusions: This case demonstrates the successful application of CAD/CAM composite veneers in the rehabilitation of peg-shaped lateral incisors. The use of a fully digital workflow in a preclinical setting emphasises the educational value and clinical potential of such technologies, which are in line with contemporary prosthodontic principles.

Keywords: Peg teeth; Composite veneers; Digital workflow; CAD/CAM dentistry

ESTETSKA TRANSFORMACIJA VAMPIRSKE DVOJKE

Lucija Kraljević^{1*}, Tea Arambašić¹, Darija Jelović¹, Tea Galić²

¹Studij Dentalna medicina, Medicinski fakultet Sveučilišta u Splitu, Split, Hrvatska; ²Katedra za stomatološku protetiku, Medicinski fakultet Sveučilišta u Splitu, Split, Hrvatska

Svrha rada: Čunjasti zubi (*peg teeth*) su morfološki atipični, suženi zubi, često konusnog oblika, koji spadaju u razvojnu anomaliju zuba poznatu kao mikrodontija. Iako zahvaćen može biti bilo koji zub, najčešće se javlja na gornjim lateralnim sjekutićima, jednostrano ili obostrano. Ta pojava može predstavljati značajan utjecaj na estetiku, osobito u prednjem segmentu, gdje su proporcionalnost i simetrija ključni za harmoničan izgled. Za estetsku rehabilitaciju čunjastih lateralnih sjekutića nude se razna protetska rješenja, uključujući izradu krunica, keramičkih ljuskica te kompozitnih ljuskica. Svrha ovog rada je prikaz upravo jednog od njih, izrađenih tijekom pretkliničkih studentskih vježbi iz kolegija *Fiksna protetika 3*, na fantomu za simulaciju rada u usnoj šupljini u Centru za zdravstvenu djelatnost u dentalnoj medicini Dental Academicus – ustrojbenoj jedinici Medicinskog fakulteta Sveučilišta u Splitu.

Materijali i metode: Prva faza terapijskog postupka bila je uzimanje digitalnog otiska početne situacije intraoralnim digitalnim skenerom (Trios 3 Wireless, 3Shape, Copenhagen, Danska). Nakon toga slijedi preparacija zuba koja je provedena tehnikom prozorčića (*window preparation*). Nakon završene preparacije uzet je još jedan digitalni otisak brušenog zuba te je odabrana odgovarajuća boja (A2). U pripadajućem CAD softveru (Ceramill Mind CAD software, Amann Girrbach, Mäder, Austrija) izrađen je dizajn ljuskice kako bi funkcijski i estetski odgovarao zubnom luku. Nakon izrade kompozitne ljuskice (Vita ENAMIC HT, VITA Zahnfabrik, Bad Säckingen, Njemačka) u CAM jedinici (CORiTEC 250i PRO, imes-icore GmbH, Hessen, Njemačka) slijedila je proba, provjeren je dosjed i estetska usklađenost te je ljuskica cementirana cementom za trajno cementiranje (Variolink Esthetic LC, Ivoclar Vivadent, Schaan, Lihtenštajn).

Rezultati: Izradom kompozitne ljuskice postignuta je uspješna estetska transformacija čunjastog lateralnog sjekutića uz minimalno invazivnu preparaciju zuba.

Zaključak: Izrada kompozitne ljuskice uz pomoć intraoralnog skenera i CAD/CAM tehnologije predstavlja moderan, precizan i estetski zadovoljavajući način rehabilitacije čunjastih lateralnih sjekutića. Ovaj slučaj potvrđuje učinkovitost digitalnog protokola u svakodnevnoj praksi.

Ključne riječi: čunjasti zubi; *peg teeth*; kompozitne ljuskice; digitalni skener; CAD/CAM sustav

TWO WORLDS, ONE GOAL: A REVOLUTION IN TEMPORARY RESTORATION FABRICATION

Ivana Krstulović^{1*}, Tihana Reič², Tea Galić³

¹Study of Dental Medicine, University of Split School of Medicine, Split, Croatia; ²Dental Clinic DR. VARNICA, Split, Croatia; ³Department of Prosthodontics, Study of Dental Medicine, University of Split School of Medicine, Split, Croatia

Objectives: Temporary dental restorations play a vital role in maintaining oral function, protecting prepared teeth, and providing the opportunity to evaluate aesthetics and function prior to the final prosthetic solution. With the advancement of digital technologies in dentistry, clinicians now have the ability to fabricate temporary restorations with increased precision and efficiency. This case study compares two methods – direct analogue and indirect digital – for the fabrication of a temporary crown following the removal of a metal-ceramic crown on tooth 21.

Materials and methods: A female patient presented to the dental clinic with an old, inadequate metal-ceramic crown on tooth 21. The tooth had been previously endodontically treated and a glass fibre-reinforced composite post was placed (3M™ RelyX™ Fiber Post, 3M ESPE, St. Paul, USA). An alginate impression of the upper jaw was taken to fabricate a temporary crown using the direct method in the clinic. In addition, an intraoral scan of the initial condition was performed using an intraoral scanner (Trios 3 Wireless, 3Shape, Copenhagen, Denmark). After removal of the old crown and refinement of the tooth preparation, a retraction cord was placed; a digital impression was taken and sent to a dental laboratory. The directly fabricated temporary crown was made of 3M™ Protemp™ 4 (3M ESPE, St. Paul, USA), adjusted and polished, and then cemented using 3M™ RelyX™ Temp NE temporary cement (3M ESPE, St. Paul, USA). The laboratory-fabricated crown, which was based on the digital scan, was printed in a bio-compatible resin for temporary crowns (Detax FREEPRINT temp UV, Ivoclar Digital, Ivoclar Vivadent, Schaan, Liechtenstein). The following day, the direct temporary crown was removed and the digitally fabricated crown was cemented using the same temporary cement.

Results: Both the direct analogue and indirect digital methods provided satisfactory functional and aesthetic outcomes during the temporary phase. The direct method allowed a faster initial restoration of function. However, the indirect digital technique showed better marginal fit, strength, and aesthetic quality.

Conclusion: While digital techniques offer improved marginal accuracy, aesthetics and predictability of the final outcome, the analogue method remains an important and practical option in clinical practice due to its accessibility and speed. The combined use of both methods can lead to optimal results by combining efficiency with high precision.

Keywords: Temporary crown; Digital impression; CAD/CAM workflow

DVA SVIJETA, JEDAN CILJ: REVOLUCIJA U IZRADI PRIVREMENIH NADOMJESTAKA

Ivana Krstulović^{1*}, Tihana Reič², Tea Galić³

¹Studij Dentalna medicina, Medicinski fakultet Sveučilišta u Splitu, Split, Hrvatska; ²Stomatološka poliklinika DR. VARNICA, Split, Hrvatska; ³Katedra za stomatološku protetiku, Medicinski fakultet Sveučilišta u Splitu, Split, Hrvatska

Svrha rada: Privremeni nadomjestci u dentalnoj medicini pacijentu omogućuju normalnu funkciju žvakanja i govora, ali služe i kao zaštita preostalog zubnog tkiva, konturiraju gingivu, stabiliziraju međučeljusne odnose te pružaju procjenu estetskog i funkcionalnog učinka budućeg trajnog rada. Razvojem digitalne tehnologije u dentalnoj medicini otvorene su nove mogućnosti u planiranju i izradi privremenih nadomjestaka. Cilj ovog rada je usporedba direktne analogne i indirektno digitalne metode izrade privremenog nadomjestka nakon zamjene stare metal-keramičke krunice na zubu 21.

Materijali i metode: Pacijentica dolazi u ordinaciju dentalne medicine sa starom neodgovarajućom metal-keramičkom krunicom na zubu 21. Zub je endodontski saniran i postavljen je staklenim vlaknima ojačani kompozitni korijenski kolčić (3M™ RelyX™ Fiber Post, 3M ESPE, St. Paul, SAD). Uzet je otisak gornje čeljusti alginatom za izradu privremene krunice direktnom metodom u ordinaciji. Zatim je skenirana početna situacija intraoralnim skenerom (Trios 3 Wireless, 3Shape, Copenhagen, Danska). Nakon uklanjanja stare krunice i dobrušavanja bataljka, postavljen je retrakcijski konac i uzet digitalni otisak koji je poslan u dentalni laboratorij. Direktno izrađena privremena krunica izrađena je od materijala 3M™ Protemp™ 4 (3M ESPE, St. Paul, SAD), prilagođena i polirana te cementirana privremenim cementom 3M™ RelyX™ Temp NE (3M ESPE, St. Paul, SAD). Laboratorijski izrađena krunica na temelju digitalnog otiska printana je u biokompatibilnoj smoli za izradu privremenih krunica (Detax FREEPRINT temp UV, Ivoclar Digital, Ivoclar Vivadent, Schaan, Liechtenstein). Sljedeći dan skinuta je direktno izrađena privremena krunica te je indirektno izrađena printana krunica cementirana privremenim cementom 3M™ RelyX™ Temp NE (3M ESPE, St. Paul, SAD).

Rezultati: Obje metode omogućile su zadovoljavajuću funkcijsku i estetsku rekonstrukciju tijekom izrade privremene krunice. Direktnom metodom brže je postignuta inicijalna funkcija, ali indirektna digitalna metoda rezultirala je boljom preciznošću rubne prilagodbe, većom čvrstoćom i boljom estetikom.

Zaključak: Iako digitalna tehnologija ima prednost u smislu rubne prilagodbe, estetike i predvidljivosti konačnog rezultata, analogna metoda smatra se vrijednim alatom u svakodnevnoj kliničkoj praksi zbog dostupnosti i brzine izrade. Obje metode kombinirano predstavljaju optimalan pristup kako bi se postigla brzina i visoka preciznost.

Ključne riječi: privremena krunica; digitalni otisak; CAD/CAM sustav

AESTHETIC HARMONY IN RESIN LAYERS – A CASE REPORT

Dora Martić^{1*}, Monika Markulin¹, Darija Jelović¹, Tea Galić²

¹Study of Dental Medicine, University of Split School of Medicine, Split, Croatia; ²Department of Prosthodontics, Study of Dental Medicine, University of Split School of Medicine, Split, Croatia

Objectives: Aesthetic veneers offer a visually appealing and minimally invasive solution for correcting the shape, size, colour, and position of teeth, particularly in the anterior segment. The aim of this study was to present the fabrication process of composite veneers using the indirect technique in a dental laboratory for teeth 12, 11, 21 and 22, focussing on both the clinical and laboratory steps as well as a comparison between two different preparation designs.

Materials and methods: This case report presents the fabrication of composite veneers on a maxillary model in the region of teeth 12, 11, 21 and 22 using a phantom head to simulate intraoral conditions during the preclinical training of students at the Dental Academicus Center for Dental Medicine, a department of the University of Split School of Medicine. The procedure began with a digital impression of the unprepared upper and lower jaws using an intraoral scanner (Trios 3 Wireless, 3Shape, Copenhagen, Denmark), followed by the fabrication of a silicone index for the upper jaw using addition-curing putty silicone (Zhermack, elite HD+, Bovazecchino, Italy). The tooth surfaces were marked using a 1.6 mm depth cutter and a graphite pencil to guide the preparation. Two types of preparation were selected: “window” preparation for the central incisors (11, 21) and “butt joint” for the lateral incisors (12, 22). After preparation, a digital impression of the prepared teeth was taken with the same intraoral scanner. Temporary veneers were fabricated using a direct technique (Acrytemp, Zhermack, Italy), while the final composite veneers (Vita ENAMIC HT, VITA Zahnfabrik, Bad Säckingen, Germany) were manufactured in a dental laboratory using a CAM unit (CORITEC 250i PRO, imes-core GmbH, Hessen, Germany). The final step was the adhesive bonding of the veneers using a composite cement (Variolink Esthetic LC, Ivoclar Vivadent, Schaan, Liechtenstein).

Results: The case presented confirms that the indirect technique, when performed with adequate preparation and protocol, can provide a functionally and aesthetically satisfactory solution, especially for patients with minor aesthetic deficiencies.

Conclusion: The fabrication of composite veneers on a model allows students to develop precision, understand direct technique protocols and cultivate the aesthetic awareness required for anterior restorations. Phantom-based training significantly increases students' confidence and competence for future clinical application.

Keywords: Composite veneers; Indirect technique; Aesthetics; Tooth preparation; CAD/CAM system

ESTETSKA HARMONIJA U SLOJEVIMA SMOLE – PRIKAZ SLUČAJA

Dora Martić^{1*}, Monika Markulin¹, Darija Jelović¹, Tea Galić²

¹Studij Dentalna medicina, Medicinski fakultet Sveučilišta u Splitu, Split, Hrvatska; ²Katedra za stomatološku protetiku, Medicinski fakultet Sveučilišta u Splitu, Split, Hrvatska

Svrha rada: Estetske ljuskice predstavljaju estetski prihvatljivo i minimalno invazivno rješenje za korekciju oblika, veličine, boje i položaja zubi, posebice u prednjem segmentu. Cilj ovog rada bio je prikazati postupak izrade kompozitnih ljuskica indirektnom metodom u zubotehničkom laboratoriju zubi 12, 11, 21 i 22 s naglaskom na kliničke i laboratorijske korake te usporedbu dviju različitih vrsta preparacije.

Materijali i metode: Prikazani slučaj obuhvaća izradu kompozitnih ljuskica na modelu gornje čeljusti u području zubi 12, 11, 21 i 22 na fantomu za simulaciju rada u usnoj šupljini, tijekom pretkliničkih studentskih vježbi u Centru za zdravstvenu djelatnost u dentalnoj medicini Dental Academicus – ustrojbenoj jedinici Medicinskog fakulteta Sveučilišta u Splitu. Postupak je započet digitalnim otiskom intraoralnim skenerom (Trios 3 Wireless, 3Shape, Copenhagen, Danska) nebrušenog modela gornje i donje čeljusti nakon čega je izrađen silikonski ključ gornje čeljusti korištenjem adicijskog silikona kitaste konzistencije (Zhermack, elite HD+, Bovazecchino, Italija). Slijedila je markacija zuba svrdlom za markaciju promjera 1,6 mm i žljebovi su označeni grafitnom olovkom. Odabrane su dvije vrste preparacije: *window* preparacija na središnjim sjekutićima (11, 21) i *butt joint* na lateralnim sjekutićima (12, 22). Nakon brušenja uzet je digitalni otisak intraoralnim skenerom (Trios 3 Wireless, 3Shape, Copenhagen, Danska) brušenih zubi. Potom su izrađene privremene ljuskice (Acrytemp, Zhermack, Bovazecchino, Italija) direktnom tehnikom kao i konačne kompozitne ljuskice (Vita ENAMIC HT, VITA Zahnfabrik, Bad Säckingen, Njemačka) izrađene u zubotehničkom laboratoriju u CAM jedinici (CORITEC 250i PRO, imes-core GmbH, Hessen, Njemačka). Završni korak uključivao je adhezivno cementiranje izrađenih ljuskica kompozitnim cementom (Variolink Estetic LC, Ivoclar Vivadent, Schaan, Lihtenštajn).

Rezultati: Prikazani slučaj potvrđuje da indirektna tehnika, uz pravilnu preparaciju i izvedbu, može rezultirati funkcionalno i estetski zadovoljavajućim rješenjem, osobito u pacijenata s manjim estetskim nedostacima.

Zaključak: Izrada kompozitnih ljuskica na modelu omogućuje studentima razvoj preciznosti, poznavanje protokola direktne tehnike i estetski osjećaj potreban za restauraciju prednjih zubi. Vježba na fantomu značajno pridonosi stjecanju samopouzdanja i kompetencija za buduću kliničku primjenu.

Ključne riječi: kompozitne ljuskice; indirektna tehnika; estetika, brušenje zubi; CAD/CAM sustav

SPORTS MOUTHGUARD – ANALOGUE VS. DIGITAL

Ana-Marija Tucak^{1*}, Laura Jurina¹, Tea Galić²

¹Study of Dental Medicine, University of Split School of Medicine, Split, Croatia; ²Department of Prosthodontics, Study of Dental Medicine, University of Split School of Medicine, Split, Croatia

Objectives: Sports mouthguards are essential to prevent dentoalveolar injuries in contact sports such as martial arts, basketball, handball or water polo. The fabrication method may influence the quality of protection, comfort and acceptance by athletes. This case report presents the fabrication of a custom-made mouthguard for an athlete using both analogue (conventional) and digital (modern) methods, based on an analysis of material, workflow, time efficiency, accuracy and comfort.

Materials and Methods: Two custom-made mouthguards were provided to a single water polo athlete: one was fabricated using the conventional analogue approach and the other using a digital workflow. In the analogue method, alginate impressions were taken and ethylene-vinyl acetate (EVA) material (Playsafe Triple, Erkodent, Pfalzgrafenweiler, Germany) was thermoformed on a plaster model. The material was heated and moulded onto the plaster model with the help of an interocclusal bite registration using the vacuum technique. The mouthguard was then carefully trimmed, customised, polished and tested on the patient in the clinic. The digital method used intraoral scans (Trios 3 Wireless, 3Shape, Copenhagen, Denmark), CAD software for the design (Optor Lab, Open Tech 3D, Brescia, Italy) and 3D printing (AccuFab-L4K Printer, Shining 3D Dental, Stuttgart, Germany) with a soft biocompatible resin (KeySplint Soft, KeyPrint, Keystone Industries GmbH, Singen, Germany). The mouthguard was then trimmed and polished and returned to the clinic to be tested on the patient.

Results: Both mouthguards demonstrated excellent precision without the athlete perceiving any difference in terms of comfort or ease of use.

Conclusion: Digital fabrication of sports mouthguards offers significant advantages, including greater accuracy, reproducibility, faster processing and digital archiving for future use. Although the initial cost of the equipment is higher, the digital approach proves to be more efficient and economical in the long run, especially in practices that frequently manufacture protective equipment for athletes.

Keywords: Mouthguard; Digital workflow; Analogue fabrication; Intraoral scanning; 3D printing

SPORTSKI ŠTITNIK – ANALOGNO VS. DIGITALNO

Ana-Marija Tucak^{1*}, Laura Jurina¹, Tea Galić²

¹Studij Dentalna medicina, Medicinski fakultet Sveučilišta u Splitu, Split, Hrvatska; ²Katedra za stomatološku protetiku, Medicinski fakultet Sveučilišta u Splitu, Split, Hrvatska

Svrha rada: Sportski štitnici, posebno u kontaktnim sportovima poput borilačkih sportova, košarke, rukometa ili vaterpola, ključni su za zaštitu dentoalveolarnog sustava. Kvaliteta izrade štitnika izravno utječe na učinkovitost zaštite, udobnost pri nošenju i na to hoće li sportaš prihvatiti štitnik. Ovaj rad prikazuje izradu sportskog štitnika za jednog sportaša koristeći obje metode, konvencionalnu – analognu i suvremenu – digitalnu, kroz analizu materijala, procesa i vremena izrade, preciznosti i udobnosti gotovog štitnika.

Materijali i metode: U ovom istraživanju izrađena su dva individualna štitnika za jednog sportaša, vaterpolista: jedan analognom, a drugi digitalnom metodom. U analognoj metodi pacijentu je uzet alginatni otisak gornje i donje čeljusti te je u zubotehničkom laboratoriju izrađen sadreni model. U uređaju za dubinsko izvlačenje folija (Erkoform 3D, Erkodent, Pfalzgrafenweiler, Njemačka) izrađen je štitnik od termoplastičnog materijala etilen-vinil-acetata (EVA) (Playsafe Triple, Erkodent, Pfalzgrafenweiler, Njemačka) koji se u uređaju zagrijavao i oblikovao vakuumskom tehnikom na sadrenom modelu, uz korištenje međučeljusnog registrata. Štitnik se tada precizno izrezao i prilagodio, polirao i u ordinaciji isprobao na pacijentu. U digitalnoj metodi za uzimanje otiska korišten je intraoralni skener (Trios 3 Wireless, 3Shape, Copenhagen, Danska) i digitalni 3D otisak poslan je elektroničkim putem u laboratorij. U laboratoriju je tehničar u softverskom rješenju (Optor Lab, Open Tech 3D, Brescia, Italija) izradio digitalni model i štitnik koji je isprintan (AccuFab-L4K Printer, Shining 3D Dental, Stuttgart, Njemačka) u mekoj biokompatibilnoj smoli (KeySplint Soft, KeyPrint, Keystone Industries GmbH, Singen, Njemačka). Štitnik je nakon obrade i poliranja vraćen u ordinaciju te je isproban na pacijentu.

Rezultati: Oba štitnika bila su izuzetno precizna te pacijent prilikom uporabe štitnika nije osjetio razliku.

Zaključak: Digitalna tehnologija u dentalnoj medicini donosi niz prednosti u izradi sportskih štitnika, uključujući preciznost, ponovljivost i skraćeno vrijeme izrade. Digitalni se otisak može arhivirati i upotrijebiti opet (npr. ako pacijent izgubi štitnik) te je manje vjerojatno da će biti pogreška ili potrebe za ponavljanjem otiska. Unatoč većim početnim ulaganjima u opremu, dugoročno je digitalna metoda isplativija i učinkovitija, osobito u ordinacijama koje redovito izrađuju štitnike za sportaše.

Ključne riječi: sportski štitnik; digitalna stomatologija; analogna metoda; intraoralno skeniranje; 3D printanje

LASER MARKING OF DENTAL PROSTHESES FOR TRACEABILITY AND FORENSIC IDENTIFICATION

Nevena Devčić¹, Iva Badovinac Hajduković¹, Marko Rajda¹, Goran Nemec², Siniša Varga¹

¹Department of Prosthodontics, Dental Clinic Zagreb, Zagreb, Croatia; ²Nemec Art, Engraving Studio, Zagreb, Croatia

Objective: This study investigates the feasibility and effectiveness of dental identification systems (DIS) with a specific focus on laser engraving as a complementary forensic method in cases where conventional identification techniques – such as dactyloscopy and genetic profiling – are limited or not applicable. The primary aim is to establish a standardized protocol for laser-based marking of metal-based dental prosthetic devices, enhancing traceability and identification accuracy in mass fatality scenarios and in clinical populations with cognitive or neurodegenerative impairments.

Materials and methods: Three removable partial dentures with metal frameworks were laser engraved to provide individual identification markings. Each prosthesis was inscribed at a specific anatomical location using a high-energy laser beam to engrave alphanumeric codes that serve as primary identifiers. The procedure was carried out under controlled conditions to maintain the structural and functional integrity of the prostheses.

Results: The laser engraving process resulted in permanent, legible and consistent markings without compromising the mechanical properties or clinical functionality of the prosthetic materials. The positioning and visibility of the markings were suitable for both forensic and clinical applications.

Conclusion: Laser engraving of dental prostheses is a robust, durable and precise method for post-mortem and in vivo identification. Despite existing limitations due to economic and legal factors, the technique demonstrates high potential for integration into forensic protocols and clinical documentation practices. The outcomes of this preliminary investigation support the broader implementation of laser-marked prosthetic devices as a cost-effective strategy to improve patient traceability and identification, particularly in mass casualty and cognitively vulnerable populations.

Keywords: Laser engraving; Dental prostheses; Forensic identification

LASERSKO OZNAČAVANJE PROTETSKIH POMAGALA RADI SLJEDIVOSTI I FORENZIKE

Nevena Devčić¹, Iva Badovinac Hajduković¹, Marko Rajda¹, Goran Nemec², Siniša Varga¹

¹Zavod za protetiku, Stomatološka poliklinika Zagreb, Zagreb, Hrvatska; ²Nemec Art, Studio za graviranje, Zagreb, Hrvatska

Svrha rada: Svrha ovog rada je prikazati primjenjivost dentalnih identifikacijskih sustava (DIS), s posebnim naglaskom na tehniku laserskog graviranja, kao dopunske metode u forenzičkoj identifikaciji u slučajevima gdje su konvencionalne metode, poput daktiloskopije i genetske analize, otežane ili onemogućene. Cilj rada je demonstrirati protokol označavanja protetskih nadomjestaka s metalnom bazom u svrhu unapređenja procesa identifikacije u situacijama masovnih katastrofa, kao i u kliničkom kontekstu, osobito kod pacijenata s kognitivnim i neurodegenerativnim oboljenjima.

Materijal i metode: U radu su analizirana tri protetska mobilna nadomjestka s metalnom bazom, na kojima je primijenjena metoda laserskog graviranja za označavanje identifikacijskih oznaka. Svaki nadomjestak označen je na različitoj poziciji, a korišten je alfanumerički kod kao osnovni identifikacijski marker. Graviranje je izvedeno visokoenergetskim laserskim snopom, uz pažnju da se ne naruši integritet i funkcionalnost protetskog materijala.

Zaključak: Dentalni identifikacijski sustavi, osobito oni temeljeni na laserskom graviranju, predstavljaju pouzdanu, trajnu i preciznu metodu identifikacije u forenzičkoj i kliničkoj praksi. Iako postoji niz izazova u pogledu troškova i pravne regulative, njihova primjena ima velik potencijal za poboljšanje medicinske skrbi i olakšavanje procesa identifikacije u hitnim situacijama. Prikazani prototipovi potvrđuju funkcionalnost i praktičnost ovog pristupa, uz relativno niska ulaganja.

Ključne riječi: lasersko graviranje; mobilni nadomjestak; forenzička identifikacija

COLOUR AND TRANSLUCENCY CHANGES OF SUPER-TRANSLUCENT ZIRCONIA WITH DIFFERENT TREATMENTS AFTER SIMULATED WEAR

Ines Kovačić^{1*}, Maja Žagar¹, Robert Pongrac², Robert Čelić^{1,3}, Dubravka Knezović Zlatarić^{1,3}

¹Department of Removable Prosthodontics, Faculty of Dentistry, University of Zagreb, Zagreb, Croatia;

²Private Dental Laboratory, Zagreb, Croatia; ³Department of Prosthodontics, Dental Clinic, University Hospital Center Zagreb, Zagreb, Croatia

Purpose: To investigate the influence of different surface treatments of zirconia on the colour change (ΔE) and translucency parameter (TP) before and after simulated wear by brushing.

Materials and methods: A total of 30 samples were made from a super-translucent zirconia disc (Vita YZ ST, A1, dimensions 7×11×2 mm). The milled samples were sintered according to the manufacturer's instructions and divided into three groups (n=10): polished, glazed (Vita Lumex Unique 370 glaze) and additionally stained and glazed (Vita Lumex Unique red-brown (A) 330 Chroma + Vita Lumex Unique 370 glaze). The L, a and b values were measured on a white and black background using a Vita Easyshade V spectrophotometer before and after 10,000 brushing cycles - a protocol that simulates one year of oral hygiene. The values for the colour difference (ΔE) and the translucency parameter (TP) were calculated.

Results: The highest ΔE value was recorded on the white background for glazed samples, and the differences between the groups were not statistically significant (p=0.069). On a black background, the ΔE changes were even smaller and also not statistically significant (p=0.980). The TP values differed significantly between the groups (before brushing: F=62.49, df=2, p<0.001; after brushing: F=13.74, df=2, p<0.001). Before brushing, the glazed samples had the highest TP value (7.29), while the samples with added chroma (stained and glazed) had the lowest (4.80). After brushing, the TP values remained stable.

Conclusion: The surface treatment of zirconia has a significant effect on translucency, but not on colour change after simulated wear by brushing. The addition of colour (chroma) reduces translucency but at the same time contributes to colour stability. These results may help in the clinical selection of the surface treatment of monolithic zirconia restorations.

Keywords: Zirconia; Colour change; Translucency parameter; Surface wear

PROMJENE BOJE I TRANSLUCENCIJE SUPER TRANSLUCENTNOG CIRKONIJEVOG DIOKSIDA RAZLIČITIH OBRADA NAKON SIMULIRANOG TROŠENJA

Ines Kovačić^{1*}, Maja Žagar², Robert Pongrac², Robert Čelić^{1,3}, Dubravka Knezović Zlatarić^{1,3}

¹Zavod za mobilnu protetiku, Stomatološki fakultet Sveučilišta u Zagrebu, Zagreb, Hrvatska; ²Privatni dentalni laboratorij, Zagreb, Hrvatska; ³Zavod za stomatološku protetiku, Klinika za stomatologiju, KBC

Zagreb, Zagreb, Hrvatska

Svrha: Istražiti utjecaj različitih površinskih obrada cirkonijeva dioksida na promjenu boje (ΔE) i translucencije (TP) prije i nakon simuliranog trošenja četkanjem.

Materijali i metode: Izrađeno je ukupno 30 uzoraka iz diska super translucenatnog cirkonijeva dioksida (Vita YZ ST, A1, dimenzije 7 × 11 × 2 mm). Izglodane pločice sinterirane su prema uputama proizvođača i podijeljene u tri skupine (n = 10): polirane, glazirane (Vita Lumex Unique 370 glaze) i dodatno obojene i glazirane (Vita Lumex Unique red-brown (A) 330 Chroma + Vita Lumex Unique 370 glaze). Na bijeloj i crnoj podlozi Vita Easyshade V spektrofotometrom izmjerene su L, a i b vrijednosti, prije i nakon 10 000 ciklusa četkanja zubnom četkicom – protokol koji simulira godinu dana oralne higijene. Izračunate su vrijednosti razlike u boji (ΔE) i parametar translucencije (TP).

Rezultati: Najveća ΔE vrijednost na bijeloj podlozi zabilježena je kod glaziranih uzoraka, a razlike među skupinama nisu bile statistički značajne (p = 0,069). Na crnoj podlozi ΔE promjene bile su još manje te također nisu bile statistički značajne (p = 0,980). TP vrijednosti značajno su se razlikovale među skupinama (prije četkanja: F = 62,49, df = 2, p < 0,001; poslije četkanja: F = 13,74, df = 2, p < 0,001). Prije četkanja, glazirani uzorci imali su najviši TP (7,29), dok su uzorci s dodatkom boje (chroma + glazura) imali najniži (4,80). Nakon četkanja, TP vrijednosti su ostale stabilne.

Zaključak: Površinska obrada cirkonijeva dioksida značajno utječe na translucenciju, ali ne i na promjenu boje nakon simuliranog trošenja četkanjem. Dodavanje boje (chroma) smanjuje translucenciju, no istovremeno doprinosi stabilnosti boje. Ovi rezultati mogu pomoći pri kliničkom odabiru završne obrade monolitnih cirkonskih restauracija.

Ključne riječi: cirkonijev dioksid; promjena boje; translucencija; površinsko trošenje

THE INFLUENCE OF SURFACE TREATMENT OF SUPER-TRANSLUCENT ZIRCONIA ON COLOUR PARAMETERS BEFORE AND AFTER SIMULATED WEAR

Maja Žagar^{1*}, Ines Kovačić¹, Robert Pongrac², Robert Čelić^{1,3},
Dubravka Knezović Zlatarić^{1,3}

¹Department of Removable Prosthodontics, Faculty of Dentistry, University of Zagreb, Zagreb, Croatia;

²Private Dental Laboratory, Zagreb, Croatia; ³Department of Prosthodontics, Dental Clinic, University Hospital Center Zagreb, Zagreb, Croatia

Purpose: The aim of this study was to examine the changes in L* (lightness), C* (saturation) and h (hue) values of monolithic zirconia samples with different surface treatments before and after simulated wear by brushing.

Materials and methods: A total of 30 samples were made from a super-translucent zirconia disc (Vita YZ ST, A1, dimensions 7×11×2 mm). The milled samples were sintered according to the manufacturer's instructions and divided into three groups (n=10): polished, glazed (Vita Lumex Unique 370 glaze) and additionally stained and glazed (Vita Lumex Unique red-brown (A) 330 Chroma + Vita Lumex Unique 370 glaze). The L, C and h values were measured on a white and black background with a Vita Easyshade V spectrophotometer before and after 10,000 brushing cycles - a protocol that simulates one year of oral hygiene.

Results: Statistical analysis showed that there was no significant change in L, C and h values within the groups before and after simulated brushing wear, neither on white nor on black background ($p > 0.001$). ANOVA analysis showed statistically significant differences in the values for lightness ($F=189.8$, $df=2$, $p<0.001$), saturation ($F=417.99$, $df=2$, $p<0.001$) and hue ($F=148.77$, $df=2$, $p<0.001$) between the different types of surface treatment, both before and after simulated wear.

Conclusion: The surface treatment has a significant effect on the values of brightness, saturation and hue of zirconia. The group with added colour (stained and glazed) had the lowest brightness and the highest colour saturation. After simulated wear, the values for brightness, saturation and hue remained stable in all groups.

Keywords: Zirconia; Colour; L, C and h values; Surface wear

UTJECAJ POVRŠINSKE OBRADE SUPER TRANSLUCENTNOG CIRKONIJ DIOKSIDA NA PARAMETRE BOJE PRIJE I NAKON SIMULIRANOG TROŠENJA

Maja Žagar^{1*}, Ines Kovačić¹, Robert Pongrac², Robert Čelić^{1,3},
Dubravka Knezović Zlatarić^{1,3}

¹Zavod za mobilnu protetiku, Stomatološki fakultet, Sveučilišta u Zagrebu, Zagreb, Hrvatska; ²Privatni

dentalni laboratorij, Zagreb, Hrvatska; ³Zavod za stomatološku protetiku, Klinika za stomatologiju, KBC Zagreb, Zagreb, Hrvatska

Svrha: Cilj ovog istraživanja bio je ispitati promjene u vrijednostima L* (svjetlina), C* (zasićenost) i h (nijansa) monolitnih cirkonij-dioksidnih uzoraka različitih površinskih obrada prije i nakon simuliranog trošenja četkanjem.

Materijali i metode: Izrađeno je ukupno 30 uzoraka iz diska super translucentnog cirkonijeva dioksida (Vita YZ ST, A1, dimenzije 7 × 11 × 2 mm). Izglodane pločice sinterirane su prema uputama proizvođača i podijeljene u tri skupine (n = 10): polirane, glazirane (Vita Lumex Unique 370 glaze) i dodatno obojane i glazirane (Vita Lumex Unique red-brown (A) 330 Chroma + Vita Lumex Unique 370 glaze). Na bijeloj i crnoj podlozi Vita Easyshade V spektrofotometrom izmjerene su L, C i h vrijednosti, prije i nakon 10 000 ciklusa četkanja zubom četkicom – protokol koji simulira godinu dana oralne higijene.

Rezultati: Statistička obrada pokazala je da nema značajne promjene u L, C i h vrijednostima unutar skupina prije i poslije simuliranog trošenja četkanjem, ni na bijeloj ni na crnoj podlozi ($p > 0.001$). ANOVA je pokazala statistički značajne razlike u vrijednostima svjetline ($F = 189,8$, $df = 2$, $p < 0,001$), zasićenosti ($F = 417,99$, $df = 2$, $p < 0,001$) i nijanse boje ($F = 148,77$, $df = 2$, $p < 0,001$) među različitim vrstama površinske obrade, kako prije tako i nakon simuliranog trošenja.

Zaključak: Površinska obrada značajno utječe na vrijednosti svjetline, zasićenosti i nijanse cirkonijeva dioksida. Skupina s dodatkom boje (chroma + glazura) imala je najnižu svjetlinu i najvišu zasićenost boje. Nakon simuliranog trošenja, vrijednosti svjetline, zasićenosti i nijanse ostale su stabilne u svim skupinama.

Ključne riječi: cirkonijev dioksid; boja; LCh vrijednosti; površinsko trošenje

DIGITAL ANALYSIS OF OCCLUSION IN A COMPLEX FIXED-IMPLANT PROSTHETIC CASE USING THE RUNYES INTRAORAL SCANNER – A CASE REPORT

Dubravka Knezović Zlatarić^{1, 2*}, Adnan Šabulić², Ivana Rožić³

¹Department for Removable Prosthodontics, School of Dental Medicine, University of Zagreb, Zagreb, Croatia; ²Adident Dental Centar, Zagreb, Croatia; ³Dental laboratory Ivana Rožić, Zagreb, Croatia

Introduction: Complex rehabilitations involving simultaneous fixed and implant-supported prosthetic treatment require a high degree of precision in diagnosis, planning and execution. Digital tools such as intraoral scanners – in this case the Runyes scanner – enable precise recording of the condition and detailed occlusal analysis, especially in cases where both natural teeth and implants are involved.

Case report: A female patient presented with severe abrasion, reduced vertical dimension, and dissatisfaction with both function and aesthetics. Missing teeth in the lateral support zones (16, 15, 26, 36, 46) indicated the need for comprehensive rehabilitation. The treatment plan included preparation of teeth 17 to 47 (with the exception of region 15-16, where a bridge was placed), implant placement in regions 26, 36 and 46, and fabrication of both provisional and final restorations. A combined approach was used for the primary impression: analogue for precision of the margins and digital scanning for accurate occlusal registration. In the second phase, following trial placement and aesthetic control, additional digital scanning of the final work was performed to confirm stability and function and to prepare individual trays and impressions of open-tray implants. Special attention was paid to the placement of the provisional crowns in infraocclusion over the non-integrated implants to preserve the prosthetic arch, protect the space and allow for undisturbed osseointegration. Thus, the implants not only served as future abutments, but also as active stabilizers of the prosthetic balance during the entire treatment.

Conclusion: This case confirms the value of digital scanning as both a diagnostic and therapeutic tool, not only in the final phase but also during the transitional stages of complex rehabilitations. The use of the Runyes scanner enabled improved occlusal control, more accurate planning and safer implant integration, while the combined impression approach ensured a high degree of clinical precision.

Keywords: Intraoral scanner; Implant prosthetics; Infraocclusion; Digital occlusal analysis; Fixed rehabilitation

DIGITALNA ANALIZA OKLUZIJE U KOMPLEKSNOJ FIKSNO-IMPLANTOPROTETSKOJ SANACIJI KORIŠTENJEM INTRAORALNOG SKENERA RUNYES – PRIKAZ SLUČAJA

Dubravka Knezović Zlatarić^{1, 2*}, Adnan Šabulić², Ivana Rožić³

¹Zavod za mobilnu protetiku, Stomatološki fakultet, Sveučilište u Zagrebu, Zagreb, Hrvatska; ²Adident Dental Centar, Zagreb, Hrvatska; ³Dentalni laboratorij Ivana Rožić, Zagreb, Hrvatska

Uvod: Kompleksne rehabilitacije koje uključuju istodobnu fiksno-protetsku i implantoprotetsku sanaciju zahtijevaju visoku preciznost u dijagnostici, planiranju i provedbi zahvata. Digitalni alati poput intraoralnih skenera, u ovom slučaju Runyes, omogućuju precizno bilježenje stanja i detaljnu analizu okluzijskih odnosa, osobito u situacijama gdje su prisutni i prirodni zubi i implantati.

Prikaz slučaja: Pacijentica se javila s izraženom abrazijom i gubitkom vertikalne dimenzije te je nezadovoljna funkcijom i estetikom. Nedostajali su zubi u lateralnim potpornim zonama (16, 15, 26, 36, 46) te je pacijentica izrazila želju za cjelovitom rehabilitacijom. Planom terapije predviđeno je brušenje zuba od 17 do 47 (osim regije 15 – 16 gdje je izrađen most), ugradnja implantata u regijama 26, 36 i 46 te izrada privremenih i trajnih nadomjestaka. Za primarni otisak korišten je kombinirani pristup: analogni otisak za preciznost rubova i digitalni sken za vjerodostojnost okluzijskih odnosa. U drugoj fazi, nakon probe postave i kontrole estetike, učinjeno je dodatno digitalno skeniranje gotovog rada radi potvrde stabilnosti i funkcije, te za pripremu individualne žlice i otvorenog otiska na implantatima. Posebna pažnja posvećena je fazi postavljanja privremenih kruna u infraokluziji iznad implantata koji još nisu integrirani, čime se čuva protetski niz, štiti prostor i omogućuje nesmetana oseointegracija. Time implantati nisu samo nositelji buduće suprastrukture, nego i aktivni stabilizatori protetske ravnoteže tijekom terapije.

Zaključak: Ovaj prikaz slučaja potvrđuje vrijednost digitalnog skeniranja kao dijagnostičkog i terapijskog alata, ne samo u završnoj fazi, nego i tijekom međufaza kompleksnih sanacija. Upotreba skenera Runyes omogućila je bolju kontrolu okluzije, precizniju pripremu i sigurnije uključivanje implantata, dok je kombinirani otisni pristup osigurao visoku razinu kliničke točnosti.

Ključne riječi: intraoralni skener; implantoprotetika; infraokluzija; digitalna analiza okluzije; fiksna rehabilitacija

EFFECT OF OLIVE LEAF EXTRACT IN COMBINATION WITH STANDARD ANTIFUNGAL THERAPY ON ORAL SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS

Maja Kinkela Devčić^{1*}, Sunčana Simonić-Kocijan², Ivone Uhač², Davor Vučinić², Irena Glažar³, Ella Sever³

¹Clinic of Dental Medicine, Clinical Hospital Center Rijeka, Rijeka, Croatia; ²Department of Prosthodontics, Faculty of Dental Medicine, University of Rijeka, Rijeka, Croatia; ³Department of Oral Medicine, Faculty of Dental Medicine, University of Rijeka, Rijeka, Croatia

Aim: The aim of this study was to investigate whether the combined administration of olive leaf extract (OLE) with a standard antifungal therapy – nystatin (NYS) or miconazole (MIC) – could be a more efficient alternative in reducing oral signs and symptoms.

Materials and methods: The study included 59 subjects who had at least one oral sign or symptom identified by clinical examination. The signs and symptoms assessed included red lesions on the oral mucosa, red lesions of the tongue, oral dryness, taste disturbances, burning sensations on the tongue, burning sensations of the oral mucosa and salivary flow rate. The subjects were randomly divided into four groups depending on which therapy they underwent: OLE+NYS group (n=15), OLE+MIC group (n=15), NYS group (n=14), MIC group (n=15). In order to evaluate the effect of the therapy applied, a clinical examination was carried out at the beginning (before treatment) and on the third and seventh day.

Results: A significant increase in salivary flow rate was observed in the OLE+NYS group, while a significant decrease in tongue burning was reported in the OLE+MIC group. A significant decrease in burning of the oral mucosa and tongue was observed in the miconazole group. No significant differences in other clinical signs or symptoms were observed between the treatment groups.

Conclusion: Decreased salivation and burning sensations in the oral cavity are common clinical findings, and the results suggest that OLE may have supportive potential in the clinical management of these conditions.

Keywords: Olive leaf extract; Oral signs; Oral symptoms

UČINAK EKSTRAKTA LISTA MASLINE U KOMBINACIJI SA STANDARDNOM PROTUGLJIVIČNOM TERAPIJOM NA ORALNE ZNAKOVE I SIMPTOME

Maja Kinkela Devčić^{1*}, Sunčana Simonić-Kocijan², Ivone Uhač², Davor Vučinić², Irena Glažar³, Ella Sever³

¹Klinika za dentalnu medicinu, Klinički bolnički centar Rijeka, Rijeka, Hrvatska; ²Zavod za stomatološku protetiku, Fakultet dentalne medicine, Sveučilište u Rijeci, Rijeka, Hrvatska; ³Zavod za oralnu medicinu, Fakultet dentalne medicine, Sveučilište u Rijeci, Rijeka, Hrvatska

Cilj: Cilj ovog istraživanja bio je ispitati može li kombinirana primjena ekstrakta lista masline (ELM) sa standardnom protugljivičnom terapijom – nistatinom (NIS) ili mikonazolom (MIK) biti učinkovitija alternativa u smanjenju prisutnosti oralnih znakova i simptoma.

Materijal i metode: Istraživanje je uključivalo 59 ispitanika kod kojih je kliničkim pregledom utvrđena prisutnost najmanje jednog oralnog znaka ili simptoma. Evaluirani znakovi i simptomi uključivali su crvene lezije oralne sluznice, crvene lezije jezika, suhoću usne šupljine, poremećaj okusa, osjećaj pečenja jezika, osjećaj pečenja oralne sluznice i količinu nestimulirane sline. Ispitanici su nasumično raspoređeni u četiri terapijske skupine: ELM + NIS (n = 15), LM + MIK (n = 15), NIS (n = 14), MIK (n = 15). Učinak primijenjene terapije procijenjen je kliničkim pregledom prije početka terapije te treći i sedmi dan liječenja.

Rezultati: U skupini ELM + NIS zabilježeno je statistički značajno povećanje količine sline, dok je u skupini ELM + MIK uočeno značajno smanjenje osjećaja pečenja jezika. U skupini koja je primala samo mikonazol također je zabilježeno smanjenje osjećaja pečenja oralne sluznice i jezika. Nisu utvrđene značajne razlike u ostalim kliničkim znakovima i simptomima između skupina.

Zaključak: Smanjena salivacija i osjećaj pečenja česti su klinički nalazi u usnoj šupljini, a rezultati istraživanja ukazuju da ELM može imati potencijalni učinak u kliničkom liječenju navedenih stanja.

Ključne riječi: ekstrakt lista masline; oralni simptomi; oralni znakovi

DENSITY OF BONE SURROUNDING FIXED PARTIAL DENTURE ABUTMENTS IN COMPARISON TO DENSITY OF HOMOLOGOUS TEETH

Maja Božić^{1*}, Josip Kranjčić^{1,2}, Josip Vukšić^{1,2}, Asja Čelebić²

¹Clinical Hospital Dubrava, Zagreb, Croatia; ²School of Dental Medicine, University of Zagreb, Zagreb, Croatia

Aim: To measure bone density of abutments of FPDs on periapical radiographs and to compare it with bone density of homologous teeth. The hypothesis was that the abutments might have a higher density than homologous teeth.

Materials and methods: A total of 69 patients with 130 abutments participated. The inclusion criteria were an FPD in successful function for two or more years on one side of the jaw and natural homologous teeth on the other side. After clinical examination periapical radiographs were taken with a Cu stepwedge of 8 layers (0.05-0.7 mm) attached to a sensor. RTG-s were taken of both the abutment and the homologous teeth. The average grey values in the region of interest were converted to equivalent thicknesses of the calibration wedge using a third-degree polynomial function. Bone density is expressed in equivalents of the thickness of the Cu stepwedge of the grey scale in the region of interest (ROI).

Results: Bone density increased in the direction from the alveolar crest to the apex in both abutments and homologous teeth ($p < 0.01$). In addition, bone density also increased from the mesial to the distal ROIs at the level of the alveolar crest in both the abutments and the homologous teeth ($p < 0.01$). Highest density values were at the root apex in both abutments (0.321) and homologous teeth (0.303), but without significant differences ($p > 0.05$). Men had significantly denser bone than women only at the ROIs in the midline of the root levels and at the root apices ($p < 0.05$). There was no significant difference in bone density between abutments and homologous teeth ($p > 0.05$). There were no significant effects of age, FPD material and abutment/pontic ratio ($p > 0.05$).

Conclusion: The lower bone density at the alveolar crest level at the mesial ROIs compared to distal ROIs in both the abutments and the homologous teeth is not a pathological finding, but an increase in bone volume towards the distal parts of the mandibular alveolar bone. No difference in bone density between abutments and homologous teeth can be attributed to the fact that the loads from FPDs are not only distributed to the abutments but also to the entire dental arch through interdental contacts. The findings of the present study emphasize the importance of establishing good interdental contacts between FPDs and natural teeth.

Keywords: Digital x-ray; Fixed partial denture; Bone density; Cu stepwedge

GUSTOĆA KOSTI OKO FIKSNIH PROTETSKIH RADOVA U USPOREDBI S GUSTOĆOM KOSTI HOMOLOGNIH ZUBA

Maja Božić^{1*}, Josip Kranjčić^{1,2}, Josip Vukšić^{1,2}, Asja Čelebić²

¹Klinička bolnica Dubrava, Zagreb, Hrvatska; ²Sveučilište u Zagrebu, Stomatološki fakultet, Zagreb, Hrvatska

Svrha: Izmjeriti gustoću alveolarne kosti oko zuba nosača fiksnih radova i homolognih zuba na retroalveolarnim radioviziografskim (RVG) snimkama i međusobno usporediti njihovu gustoću. Hipoteza je bila da nosači mogu imati veću gustoću od homolognih zuba jer preuzimaju opterećenje zuba koji nedostaju.

Materijal i metode: Procjena gustoće kosti izmjerena je kod 69 pacijenata s ukupno 130 zuba nosača i homolognih zuba. Kriterij za uključanje bio je prisutnost fiksnih radova u uspješnoj funkciji dvije ili više godina te da su zubi nosači bez ikakvih kliničkih simptoma. Nakon kliničkog pregleda na RVG senzor pričvršćen je bakreni kalibracijski klin od 8 slojeva (0,05 – 0,7 mm) te su napravljene snimke zuba nosača i homolognih zuba. Prosječne vrijednosti razine sivila u područjima interesa (ROI) pretvorene su u ekvivalent debljine kalibracijskog klina pomoću polinoma trećeg stupnja. Gustoća kosti izražena je u ekvivalentima debljine bakrenog stepenastog klina nivoa sivila u ROI-ju.

Rezultati: Alveolarna kost gušća je oko sredine korijena zuba i apikalno nego u razini vrha alveolarnog sedla i kod zuba nosača i kod homolognih zuba ($p < 0,01$). Štoviše, gustoća kosti također se povećala od mezijalnih ROI-ja do distalnih na vrhu alveolarnog grebena ($p < 0,01$). Najviše izmjerene vrijednosti gustoće alveolarne kosti bile su apikalno i za zube nosače (0,321) i za homologne zube (0,303), bez statističke značajnosti ($p > 0,05$). Muškarci su imali značajno gušću kost od žena samo na područjima interesa u sredini korijena i na područjima vrha korijena ($p < 0,05$). Nije bilo značajne razlike u gustoći kosti između nosača i homolognih zuba ($p > 0,05$). Nije bilo značajnog utjecaja dobi, materijala fiksnog rada ili omjera nosača i međučlanova zuba ($p > 0,05$).

Zaključci: Manja gustoća kosti i kod zuba nosača i kod homolognih zuba u razini vrha alveolarnog grebena na mezijalnim ROI-ima u usporedbi s distalnim nije patološki nalaz već mu je uzrok povećanje volumena kosti prema distalno. Nepostojanje značajnih razlika u gustoći kosti između nosača i homolognih zuba može se pripisati raspodjeli opterećenja ne samo na zube nosače nego i na cijeli zubni luk preko interdentalnih kontakata. Rezultati naglašavaju važnost uspostavljanja dobrih interdentalnih kontakata između fiksnih radova i prirodnih zuba.

Ključne riječi: digitalna RTG snimka; fiksnoprotetski nadomjestak; gustoća kosti; bakreni kalibracijski klin

PROSTHETIC REHABILITATION OF A PATIENT WITH REDUCED VERTICAL DIMENSION OF OCCLUSION DUE TO NON-CARIOUS LOSS OF HARD DENTAL TISSUES – A CASE REPORT

Ivana Bergovec^{1,2*}, Tin Tomeković³

¹Department of Dental Prosthetics, Dental Clinic, University Hospital Centre Zagreb, Zagreb, Croatia; ²Dentum, Adria Dental Group, Zagreb, Croatia; ³Revidental Dental Laboratory, Adria Dental Group, Zagreb, Croatia

Introduction: In patients with extensive loss of hard dental tissues leading to a reduced vertical dimension of occlusion (VDO), the normal function of the stomatognathic system is disturbed. The changes affect the temporomandibular joint and the masticatory muscles, and aesthetics are also impaired.

Case report: The patient presented with dissatisfaction regarding the appearance of their smile. Medical history revealed a habit of clenching teeth, and clinical examination showed extensive loss of hard dental tissues, reduced VDO, diastemas in the anterior segment of the maxilla, existing metal-ceramic crowns on teeth 26 and 36 that required replacement, multi-surface amalgam fillings on teeth 16 and 46, and a missing tooth 45. Symptoms of temporomandibular joint disorders were not present. It was decided that full rehabilitation should be carried out with monolithic zirconia crowns. In the first phase, temporary PMMA crowns were fabricated (using a CAD/CAM system) based on a digital impression (MEDIT I700), which achieved an optimal VDO. After two months, the definitive prosthetic restoration phase began, in which the prepared teeth were scanned with the MEDIT I700 scanner, and the final design was created, taking into account the functional and aesthetic parameters. After prototype testing, the monolithic zirconia restorations were fabricated using a milling technique and finished with a staining technique (A1, A-D Shade Guide, Ivoclar). The patient left the clinic satisfied and happy with the prosthetic solution.

Conclusion: The digital technology enabled greater precision and a reduction in the number of working phases, which increased efficiency. Compared to analogue impressions, scanning was more comfortable for the patient and communication with the dental laboratory was simplified.

Keywords: Reduced vertical dimension of occlusion; Monolithic zirconia; Digital impression, CAD/CAM

PROTETSKA REHABILITACIJA PACIJENTA SA SNIŽENOM VERTIKALNOM DIMENZIJOM OKLUZIJE USLIJED NEKARIOZNOG GUBITKA TVRDIH ZUBNIH TKIVA – PRIKAZ SLUČAJA

Ivana Bergovec^{1,2*}, Tin Tomeković³

¹Zavod za stomatološku protetiku, Klinika za stomatologiju, KBC Zagreb, Zagreb, Hrvatska; ²Dentum, Adria Dental Group, Zagreb, Hrvatska; ³Revidental zubotehnički laboratorij, Adria Dental Group, Zagreb, Hrvatska

Uvod: Kod pacijenata s opsežnim gubitkom tvrdih zubnih tkiva koje je dovelo do sniženja vertikalne dimenzije okluzije (VDO) poremećena je normalna funkcija stomatognatnog sustava. Promjene zahvaćaju temporomandibularni zglob i žvačne mišiće, a kompromitirana je i estetika.

Prikaz slučaja: Pacijent se javlja zbog nezadovoljstva izgledom svojeg osmijeha. Iz anamneze doznajemo da postoji navika stiskanja zubima, a kliničkim je pregledom ustanovljen opsežan gubitak tvrdih zubnih tkiva, smanjenje VDO-a, diasteme u prednjem segmentu gornje čeljusti, postojeće metal-keramičke krunice na zubima 26 i 36 koje je potrebno zamijeniti, višeplošni amalgamski ispuni na zubima 16 i 46 te nedostatak zuba 45. Simptomi poremećaja temporomandibularnih zglobova nisu prisutni. Odlučeno je da će se kompletna rehabilitacija napraviti monolitnim cirkonij-oksidsnim krunicama. U prvoj fazi izrađene su privremene PMMA krunice (pomoću CAD CAM sustava) na temelju digitalnog otiska (MEDIT I700) kojima je postignut optimalan VDO. Nakon dva mjeseca pristupilo se izradi definitivnog protetskog nadomjestka gdje su brušeni zubi skenirani skenerom MEDIT I700 i izradio se konačni dizajn uz poštivanje funkcijskih i estetskih parametara. Nakon probe prototipa izradili su se cirkonij-oksidsni monolitni nadomjestci tehnikom glodanja i završili tehnikom bojenja (A1, A-D Shade Guide, Ivoclar). Pacijent je ordinaciju napustio sretan i zadovoljan protetskim rješenjem svoje situacije.

Zaključak: Digitalna tehnologija omogućila nam je veću preciznost i smanjenje broja faza rada čime je povećana efikasnost. Iskustvo skeniranja ugodnije je za pacijenta u usporedbi s analognim otiscima, a jednostavnija je i komunikacija s dentalnim laboratorijem.

Cljučne riječi: sniženje vertikalne dimenzije okluzije; monolit; cirkonij oksid; digitalni otisak; CAD/CAM

IMPLANT RESTORATION EMERGENCE PROFILE DESIGN AND ITS SIGNIFICANCE FOR LONG-TERM SUCCESSFUL CLINICAL OUTCOMES

Nikola Petričević^{1*}

¹Department of Removable Prosthodontics, School of Dental Medicine; University of Zagreb, Zagreb, Croatia

Introduction: The emergence profile or the design of the implant superstructure is important for the long-term success of a prosthodontic treatment. Prosthodontic-driven implant placement is a prerequisite for a good abutment and crown design that influences peri-implant hard and soft tissues.

Case report: The treatment plan included the fabrication of the abutment and crown on several teeth. First, the cover screw of the implant was removed and an impression was taken to fabricate the provisional screw-retained composite crown. Both additive and reductive techniques were used to shape the temporary crown to achieve its full contour, supporting the soft tissue 360° around the implant. According to the literature, the deep part (near the implant shoulder) should be designed with a small angle, less than 40°, between the abutment axis and the surface contour. As a widening towards the gingival margin is required to achieve the correct dimensions of the crown, a larger angle of up to 70° should be used. Due to the proximity of the sulcus and biofilm, the literature indicates a strong correlation between an increased angle of the emergence profile and the risk of bleeding and inflammation.

Conclusion: The transmucosal implant-abutment-crown structure is a complex structure, even if it is small in size. The proper design of the emergence profile, especially its concave shape on the vestibular side, plays an important role in long-term clinical success.

Keywords: Dental implant; Abutment; Crown; Emergence profile; Design

DIZAJN IZLAZNOG PROFILA SUPRASTRUKTURE NA IMPLANTATU I NJEGOV ZNAČAJ ZA DUGOROČNI USPJEŠNI KLINIČKI ISHOD

Nikola Petričević^{1*}

¹Zavod za mobilnu protetiku, Stomatološki fakultet, Sveučilište u Zagrebu, Zagreb, Hrvatska

Uvod: Izlazni profil ili dizajn suprastrukture na implantatu važan je za dugoročni uspjeh protetskog liječenja. Protetski vođena ugradnja implantata preduvjet je za dobar dizajn nadogradnje i krunice koji utječu na tvrda i meka tkiva oko implantata.

Prikaz slučaja: Plan liječenja uključivao je izradu nadogradnje i krunice na nekoliko zuba. Prvo je uklonjen pokrovni vijak implantata i uzet je otisak za izradu privremene kompozitne krunice na vijak. Obje tehnike, aditivna i redukcijska, korištene su za oblikovanje privremene krunice kako bi se postigla njezina puna kontura za potporu mekom tkivu 360° oko implantata. Prema literaturi, duboki dio (blizu ramena implantata) treba biti dizajniran s malim kutom, manjim od 40°, između osi *abutmenta* i konture površine. Budući da je potrebno proširenje prema gingivalnom rubu, kako bi se postigle odgovarajuće dimenzije krunice, treba primijeniti povećanje kuta do 70°. Zbog blizine sulkusa i biofilma, literatura pokazuje snažnu povezanost između povećanog stupnja kuta i rizika od krvarenja – upale.

Zaključak: Transmukozna struktura implantat-nadogradnja-krunica je složena struktura, unatoč malim dimenzijama. Pravilan dizajn suprastrukture, posebno njegov konkavni oblik na vestibularnoj strani, igra važnu ulogu u dugoročnom kliničkom uspjehu.

Ključne riječi: zubni implantat; *abutment*; krunica; izlazni profil; dizajn

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