

# Optimizing Pre-Graduate Education in Prosthetic Dentistry through Multidisciplinary Approaches

Introduction: Aging of European population press universities and dental schools to enhance dental education in the field of Gerontology and Geriatric Dentistry. During clinical training students are guided to take a comprehensive view of prosthetic treatment focusing on the senior polymorbidity. Presence of experienced clinician educators chairside allows understanding of basic principles of multidisciplinary cooperation and logically treat more complex cases. Understanding the principles of comprehensive prosthodontic treatment in undergraduate dental education is a valuable experience for dental students to support them in their future practice. Students learn how to gain patient's trust, explain complex dental procedures, and interact with a variety of patients whose backgrounds can have a major impact on treatment choices.

Case description: man, 67 years old, dg. depressions, fear and anxiety, polypharmacy, psychological trauma in his adolescent age. Heavy smoker. Dentition: Kennedy II, III, extreme attrition, movement of teeth, periodontitis, poor oral hygiene. Plan: multiple extractions, conservative treatment, PFM crowns, upper complete and lower partial dentures. Students did not carry out more sophisticated treatment plan due to patient's psychiatric problems, unreliable cooperation and his financial situation.

Discussion: Clinical teaching of dentistry is a key part of the training of future dentists but is limited to a large extent by the time allotment and the number of different cases that individual students will encounter. For these reasons, it is optimal to conduct high-quality digital documentation so that students can study more clinical cases and develop their skills. Teaching of clinical prosthetic dentistry for the elderly is influenced by special needs, demands and conditions of older patients. Each student must respect all patient's equality. There frequent handicap is level of oral hygiene, time factor and socioeconomic circumstances. Respecting these complex conditions results in a higher health-related quality of life.