

## **The rehabilitation of partial maxillectomy edentulous patients: the prosthetic solution VS the surgical reconstruction**

### **Abstract:**

Edentulous patients with partial maxillectomy defects (due to trauma or tumor surgery) are the most challenging cases to treat. In such cases the function of mastication, swallowing and speech, also the aesthetics are severely impaired. The trauma or the surgical intervention creates communication between the oral cavity, the nasal cavity and maxillary sinus. Despite the fact that it is usually challenging to rehabilitate the normal edentulous patients it is even more difficult to succeed when partial maxillectomy defects are added to the edentulous area. The size & location of the defect influence the amount of impairment and make it even more difficult to treat. In such cases the main goal of the oral & maxillofacial rehabilitation treatment is to restore the missing oral & extraoral structures three-dimensionally in order to restore the form and function that have been severely damaged and at the same time to act as a barrier between the communication among the various cavities.

Those patients can usually be rehabilitated either with a removable obturator prosthesis or alternatively with a micro vascular surgery. Both treatment options have pros & cons.

We will discover together during the presentation the advantages and disadvantages of each of these two therapeutic modalities.