

ORIGINAL RESEARCH

A Clinical Study to Evaluate Satisfaction Level among Patients Regarding Fixed Partial Denture

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ABSTRACT:

Background: For patient's satisfaction esthetics, performance, and function has to be restored. This study was conducted to determine patient satisfaction level regarding fixed partial denture. **Materials & Methods:** This study was conducted on 650 patients. All patients were asked to answer 20 close-ended questions that assess the patient's perceptions of clinical outcome regarding esthetics, masticatory efficiency, speech, the comfort of the FPD and the importance of oral hygiene measure and the ease and practice of cleaning. **Results:** 52% had FPD since 0-4 years, 20% had 4-7% and 10% had > 10 years and 18% had 7-10 years. The difference was significant ($P < 0.05$). 74% were satisfied with treatment while 26 % were unsatisfied. The difference was significant ($P < 0.05$). 81% males and 87% females were satisfied regarding function of FPD. 78% males and 75% females were satisfied regarding esthetics of FPD. The difference was non-significant ($P > 0.05$). **Conclusion:** Author concluded that the ability of FPD to fulfill all functions determines the success rate. Patient satisfaction depends on esthetics and function.

Key words: Fixed partial denture, Function, Satisfaction.

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INTRODUCTION

Dentists insert either removable denture or fixed partial denture in replacing missing teeth. In recent years, implants have become the treatment of choice. Fixed partial dentures (FPDs) have been the treatment of choice for the replacement of missing teeth for some years. However for the satisfaction of patients, FPD should fulfill all requirements.¹

Factors which affects patients satisfaction includes, dental diseases as well as edentulism. They may be expected by others to be socially less competent and have less intellectual achievement. For patient's satisfaction esthetics, performance, and function has to be restored which gets affected by dental problems. Few studied shows the factors affecting patient satisfaction in terms of FPD.²

The success of any treatment depends upon factors such as function, esthetics, masticatory ability etc. Strength of FPD also matters. It should be in occlusion and there should not be any high point of occlusal interference. Patient concerns are mainly related to function, comfort, and esthetics, especially for implant fixed prosthesis. Patients seek dental treatment with aim of rehabilitation and improvement of oral health and functions. At the same time, dental treatment also aims for the complete patient satisfaction.

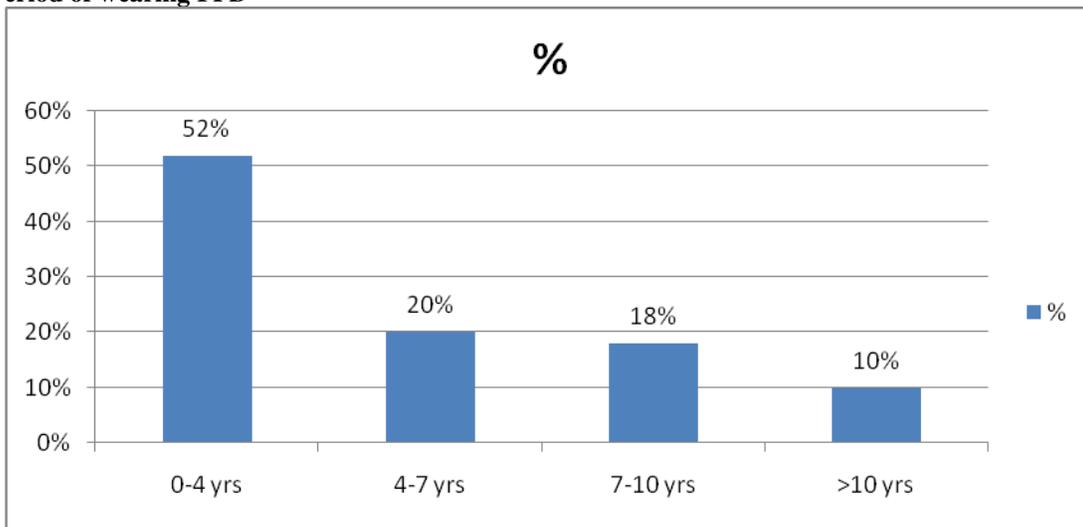
Patients with FPD look for function, esthetics, longevity of the prosthesis.³ Studies of satisfaction among partial denture patients have largely focused on those treated with removable partial dentures, although there are some reports on patient groups treated by a variety of prosthodontic means.⁴ This study was conducted to analyze patient satisfaction with fixed partial denture.

MATERIALS & METHODS

This study was conducted in the department of Prosthodontics. It comprised of 650 patients (males- 340, females-310). All were informed regarding the study and written consent was obtained. Ethical clearance was taken from institutional ethical committee. General information such as name, age, gender etc was recorded. All were provided with a questionnaire consisted of 20 close-ended questions that assess the patient's perceptions of clinical outcome regarding esthetics, masticatory efficiency, speech, the comfort of the FPD. All were instructed to answer accordingly. Results thus obtained were subjected to statistical analysis. P value < 0.05 was considered significant.

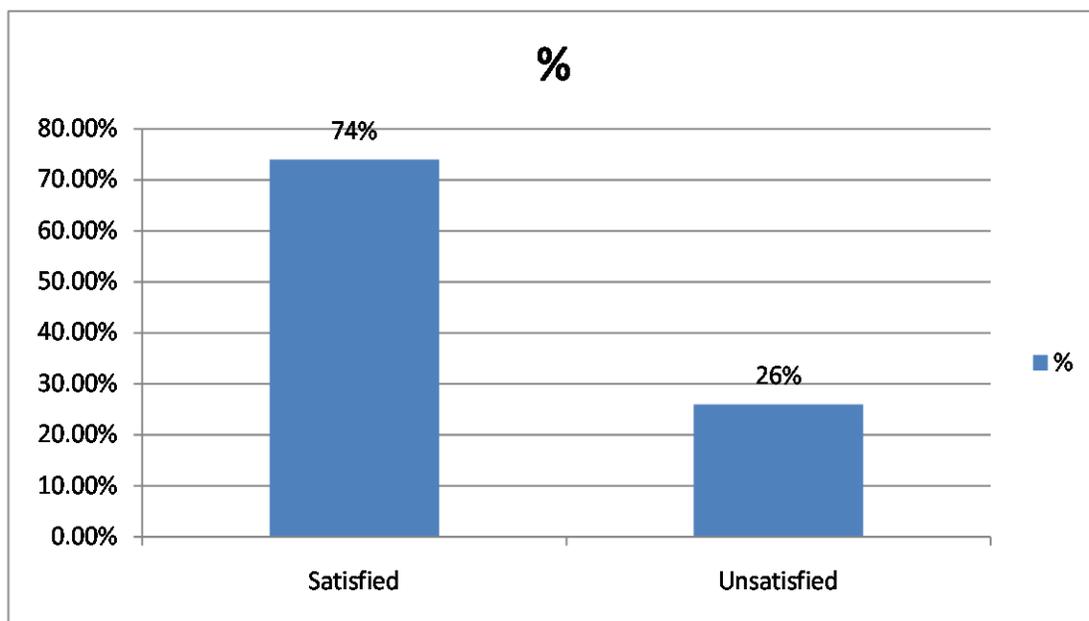
RESULTS

Graph I Period of wearing FPD



Graph I shows that 52% had FPD since 0-4 years, 20% had 4-7% and 10% had > 10 years and 18% had 7-10 years. The difference was significant (P< 0.05).

Graph II Satisfaction of patients



Graph II shows that 74% were satisfied with treatment while 26 % were unsatisfied. The difference was significant (P< 0.05).

Table II Satisfaction regarding function and esthetic

Parameters	Male	Female	P value
Function	81%	87%	0.1
Esthetic	78%	75%	0.4

Table II shows that 81% males and 87% females were satisfied regarding function of FPD. 78% males and 75% females were satisfied regarding esthetics of FPD. The difference was non- significant (P> 0.05).

DISCUSSION

Studies have shown that patient have high expectation just before starting of treatment. It is well explained that after getting partial prosthesis in the form of FPD, the function is restored partly but patient expects that they should have dentition equivalent to the natural teeth.³ Reports on satisfaction with implant-supported prostheses among edentulous patients have been both strongly positive and more equivocal. This study was conducted to evaluate patient satisfaction with fixed partial denture.⁵

In this study we included 650 patients received FPD in the year. In this study, males were 340 and females were 310. 52% had FPD since 0-4 years, 20% had 4-7% and 10% had > 10 years and 18% had 7-10 years. This is in agreement with Praja et al.⁶

In this study we assessed the satisfaction level of patients regarding performance of FPD. 74% were satisfied with treatment while 26 % were unsatisfied. 81% males and 87% females were satisfied regarding function of FPD. 78% males and 75% females were satisfied regarding esthetics of FPD.

Evaluations of treatment outcomes by clinicians do not necessarily correspond to the patients' own judgment which included both function and psychosocial adaptation. Patient concerns are mainly related to function, comfort, and esthetics, especially for implant fixed prosthesis. Factors such as design of FPD, material used in FPD and antagonist teeth also affects the outcome of treatment and patient's satisfaction.⁷

Hassan et al⁸ found that one hundred and ninety-two questionnaires were filled by patients wearing fixed prosthesis; the questionnaire included the subjective perception of treatment with fixed prosthesis, patients' perception of clinical outcome, regarding esthetics, masticatory function, speech, and together patient's attitude toward oral hygiene measures. Results showed that 84% of the patients were satisfied with their fixed prosthesis, while only 46.4% of patients were satisfied with the chewing ability. In concern, with esthetic outcome, 80% of patients showed that they were satisfied with the esthetic. The results showed that a high significantly number of patients did not use any form of interdental aids' to clean their fixed prosthesis (94%). The main reason for not using any dental

aids' (91.1%) was a lack of post fixed prosthodontics instructions and not been informed by the dentist

Tan et al⁹ retrospectively analyzed the satisfaction level of the patients who went oral rehabilitation by FPDs. They framed a questionnaire consisting of 22 questions based on the patients' subjective perception in relation to the FPD treatment. They assessed the patient's satisfaction levels in relation to aesthetics, mastication, speech and comfort levels. They observed that a very high levels of patient satisfaction in relation to the functional aspects of FPDs.

CONCLUSION

Author concluded that the ability of FPD to fulfill all functions determines the success rate. Patient satisfaction depends on esthetics and function.

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