Impact of complete denture on health and well being

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Aim/Purpose

To study the health & well being of geriatric patients with complete edentulism(without denture) and those with complete denture; and to establish the importance of dentures.

The central issue of the paper was to see the status of health and well being among geriatric males with complete edentulism(without denture) and those with complete denture. 100 males with complete edentulism (without denture) and 100 males with complete denture were studied

Materials/Methods

SAMPLE

The study has been carried out after obtaining prior approval from the Institutional Human Ethics Committee of Teaching Hospital and College. The sample comprises of 100 married males with complete edentulism(without denture) and 100 married males with complete dentures. All the respondents are in the age group 60-70 belonging to middle socio economic status having equal educational level (UG). The selected samples were Bengali Hindus.

TOOLS USED

- 1. Case study form
- 2. Oral examination
- 3. Medical health questionnaire
- 4. Well being scale

DATA COLLECTION

The data were collected individually from each sample as per an appointment schedule in their respective free time. The data were then tabulated and statistical analysis was done.

Result

Results of descriptive and inferential statistics show a significant difference in health and well being in males with complete edentulism (without denture)than in males with complete denture.

1. The descriptive analysis shows more health issues and less well being among males with complete edentulism(without denture) than with males with complete denture (mean and sd is used).

- 2. Significant difference has been found out between the two groups in health and well being (t statistics is used).
- 3. Correlation between the two variables i.e. health and well being has been found to be positive.

The findings have been interpreted accordingly.

Conclusion

The findings that more health issues and less well being among males with complete edentulism (without denture) summarizes the of inappropriate intake of food with general health and systemic diseases. It identifies areas where altered food choice leads to consequences such as reduced masticatory efficiency and behavior pattern due to tooth loss, suggestive of change in the quality of life which then has an impact on psychological well-being.

Although it is not life threatening, the complete loss of teeth or edentulism has a very significant effect on an individual. It has been observed to result in functional, psychological, and social limitations and affects the quality of life and general health of an individual. Not only are the key nutrients lacking in such individuals but also it causes increased propensity to cardiovascular diseases and such comorbid conditions. All of these reasons may end up eventually leading to malnourishment. The lack of sufficient nutrition markedly affects the general health of the patient. Summation of these also affects the quality of life of the individual to a great extent.

Thus this paper summarizes the overall impact of edentulism on health and well being of an individual and emphasises on which factor among the two is affected the most.