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Comparison of Condylar Guidance in Edentulous Individuals Using Protrusive Interocclusal Records and Panoramic Imaging

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ABSTRACT

Background: Various extra-oral and intra-oral methods have been used to register the condylar path to program the semi-adjustable articulator. However, the instability of materials and changes during their setting act as sources of error in laboratory procedures.


Objectives: To determine the inclination of the condylar guidance in completely edentulous individuals using an orthopantomogram (OPG) and a protrusive interocclusal record, and to compare the values obtained by the two methods.

Methods: Twelve completely edentulous subjects were trained to give the Gothic arch tracing. Centric and protrusive records were obtained, and the protrusive record was used to program the articulator to obtain the condylar guidance. An Orthopantomogram (OPG) of the jaws with the rims inserted in the patient's mouth and the tracers attached to it to hold the mandible in the protruded position was recorded for each patient. The angle of the condylar inclination was determined with the OPG. The sagittal condylar values for the right and the left sides obtained by both the methods for each patient were tabulated. The mean of the values obtained by each method and on each side was calculated and the data was subjected to statistical analysis.

Results: Variations of 15.58° between the OPG and inter-occlusal values for the right side, and of 15.42° for the left side were observed. The discrepancy between the right and the left sides with the OPG was 2.34° and with the inter-occlusal records it was 2.5° .

Conclusion: Panoramic radiography is not a reliable method for determining the condylar guidance.

Keywords: Condylar guidance, edentulousness, panoramic radiography, interocclusal record

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