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Prosthetic Rehabilitation of Hemimaxillectomy patient with two piece hollow bulb obturator using 3D printing technology - A Case Report

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Abstract:

Patients with maxillary defects encounter physical and psychological difficulties, leading to an extremely poor quality of life. Most common acquired defects are due to mucormycosis and oral malignancies. Patients face difficulties while performing normal functions such as swallowing and speaking, due to the defect created by surgical intervention. To overcome the problems encountered by the patients, obturators are fabricated. An obturator is a maxillofacial prosthesis used to close a congenital or acquired tissue defect, primarily of the hard palate and/or contiguous alveolar/soft-tissue structures thereby restoring the esthetics, speech, and function. The main problem with rehabilitation of such large defect is the weight of prosthesis where the prosthesis becomes very bulky and non-retentive due to its weight. So, hollow bulb obturators are fabricated to overcome this tribulation by different techniques. In the recent times, 3D printing technology has gained popularity in dentistry due to its excellent mechanical and clinical properties. This case report presents rehabilitation of hemimaxillectomy patient with two piece hollow bulb obturator using additive manufacturing technology.

Keywords: hollow bulb obturators, maxillary defects, mucormycosis, 3D printing technology.

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