



Journal of Prosthodontics Dentistry
An Official Publication of Bureau for Health & Education Status Upliftment
 (Constitutionally Entitled as Health-Education, Bureau)

Review

**Gag Reflex Revisited from a Prosthodontist Point of View-
 A Narrative Review**

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ABSTRACT

A hyperactive gag reflex is probably one of the most common problem encountered a dental professional. It is a reflex present since birth, though the intensity varies greatly among individuals. Although it goes unnoticed in most dental procedures, it can pose a great challenge when present, as it hinders various dental treatments like impression making, third molar extraction or can compromise the retention of Complete dentures, removable partial dentures or any intraoral prosthesis.

A hyperactive gag reflex can also affect the individual physically and psychologically as some people can find even meagre tasks like tooth brushing to be challenging. In fact, the fear of gagging can even affect the choice and quantity of food intake, thereby reducing the overall dietary intake.

Hence understanding the gag reflex is of pivotal importance in order to counter its severity and frequency. This article aims to give a clear picture about the causes, physiology and different ways to prevent inadvertent gagging.

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Website:<http://heb-nic.in/jopd>

Received on 19/07/2023

Accepted on 24/07/2023 © HEB All rights reserved

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