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Performance and Validation of Measures of Oral Health-Related Quality of Life Among Edentulous Population: A Cross-Sectional Study

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Statement of Problem – The study intended to assess the relationship between oral health-related quality of life and edentulous populations before and after conventional denture therapy by administering three measuring instruments. The study also extended to evaluate the reliability and validity of the three tools used.

Purpose - Comparative evaluation and validation of OHIP-14, GOHAI-11 and VAS in assessing edentulous patient's expectations and satisfaction with complete denture treatment.

Material and Methods - 428 denture wearers scored for pre-treatment expectation and post-treatment satisfaction by using OHIP-14, GOHAI-11 and VAS. Post-treatment satisfactory level was evaluated 6 months post denture placement. Statistical analysis was done using non-parametric tests, Kruskal-Wallis test, Mann-Whitney test, Bonferroni test and Odd's ratio to determine the influence of age and gender on participant's expectations and satisfaction. For intragroup comparisons, the Post Hoc Tukey test was applied. $P \leq 0.05$ is considered as statistically significant.

Results –The average age was 60 years for females and 64.62 years for males and internal reliability (Cronbach's α alpha) for GOHAI-11, OHIP-14 and VAS was calculated. In the age group, <66 and >66 yrs, only the post-treatment values for females with OHIP-14 had a closer association, which was appreciated using Odd's ratio and a difference in mean ranks and OHIP-14 was superior at depicting the results and it revealed stronger associations with the tested variables.

Conclusions – Conventional denture therapy showed a significant improvement in the scores, enhancing the oral health-related quality of life as patients presented a positive perception of complete denture therapy. Overall OHIP-14 was superior at predicting the results and revealed more significant associations.

CLINICAL IMPLICATIONS – The study results suggest that the optimum OHRQoL of the elderly population OHIP-14 could be a reliable useful tool for a prosthodontist to evaluate a patient's perception before and after the denture therapy periodically.

Keywords – Edentulous Population; OHRQoL; OHIP-14; GOHAI-11; VAS.

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