



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

Rapid Prototyping and it's Application in Prosthodontics– A Review

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ABSTRACT:

Emergence of digital technology has opened up new perspectives for design and invention in the field of dentistry. Rapid prototyping (RP) is a technique to quickly and automatically construct a three-dimensional (3D) model of a part or product using 3D printers or stereolithography machines. RP has various dental applications, such as fabrication of implant surgical guides, zirconia prosthesis and molds for metal castings, maxillofacial prosthesis and frameworks for fixed and removable partial dentures, wax patterns for the dental prosthesis and complete denture. Rapid prototyping presents fascinating opportunities, but the process is difficult as it demands a high level of artistic skill, which means that the dental technicians should be able to work with the models obtained after impression to form a mirror image and achieve good esthetics. This review aims to focus on various RP methods and its application in dentistry.

Keywords: Rapid prototyping, stereolithography, three-dimensional, 3D printing, implant guide

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

Received on 13/03/2023

Accepted on 18/03/2023 © HEB All rights reserved

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