

Complete dentures in the Curitiba-Brazil public health service

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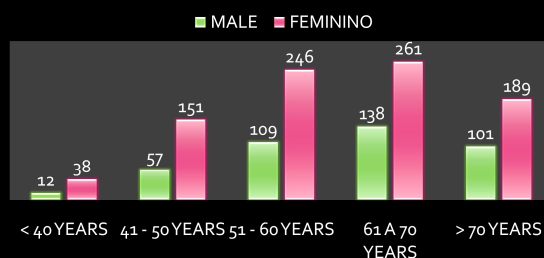
The Center for Dental Specialties Sylvio Gevaerd was opened in November 2006 and is the first in Curitiba to offer complete dentures free of cost to the population.

Objectives: To determine the profile of the patients who received complete dentures at Sylvio Gevaerd Center between 2007 and 2008, to determine the number of complete dentures installed and the status of current use of these prostheses.

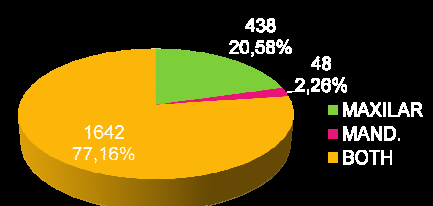
Methods: The number of dentures was determined by counting the records known as authorization for high-cost procedure, classifying the patients by age, gender and type of denture: maxillary, mandibular or both. The situation of use was identified by applying a questionnaire to 120 patients randomly selected among all patients that received complete dentures at the Center between 2007 and 2008. Data was analyzed by descriptive statistics.

Results: 2128 dentures were installed in 1302 patients, the majority of patients (77%) needed complete dentures in both maxillary and mandibular arches, 21% needed dentures only in the maxillary arch and only 2% in the mandibular arch. Female patients were 67%, and 56% of patients were aged between 51 and 70 years. 28% of the patients interrupted the use of at least one of the prostheses, accounting for 25% of the dentures installed. 85% of the interruptions occurred until the 15th day after the last follow-up appointment, which occurred about 15 days after the installation. The main reasons for the interruption of use were: trauma to the underlying soft tissues (58%), aesthetic reasons (14%), loss of retention (12%), fracture (3%), discomfort related to the posterior extension of the dentures and other reasons (9%).

DENTURE PROVIDE BY GENDERS AND AGES

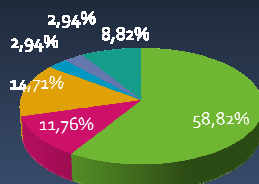
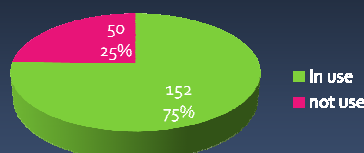


KINDE OF DENTURES MADE

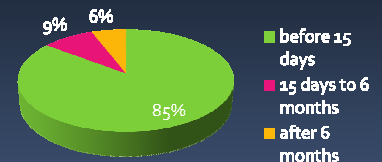


MAIN REASONS FOR THE INTERRUPTION

Denture in use



OCCURENSE TO USE INTERRUPTED



Conclusion: Although 97.5% of respondents reported satisfaction with the dental care provided at the Center, changes in the protocol of this service can reduce the interruptions of the use of complete dentures.