

Dental Treatment in Patients with scleroderma: A Case Presentation Report

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Abstract

Objective: Scleroderma (progressive systemic sclerosis) is a chronic multisystem disorder causing thickness of the skin due to the accumulation of connective tissue. It has an intense effect on the oral conditions. This case report explains the main oral complications of scleroderma, and presents a treatment plan for a patient with this disease.

Materials and methods: A 45-year-old female patient presented with upper edentulous arch and complaining of xerostomia, difficulty in speaking and swallowing because of her rigid tongue, and limited mouth opening due to facial skin hardening, which gives a classic mask-like appearance. In light of all these oral problems, after history taking and examination the decision was made to construct an upper arch complete denture.

Results: after completion of the procedure and insertion of the denture, the patient was really satisfied with the result. Following a one year interval the patient was recalled and fortunately she was found to be satisfied with the treatment.

Conclusions: for the reason that progressive systemic sclerosis (PSS) has great impact on the oral conditions, patients with this disease should have special dental care and dentists should understand all the possible complications during the dental treatment.