

THE EFFECT OF SPLINTING ABUTMENT TEETH UNDER OVERDENTURES ON THEIR SUPPORTING STRUCTURES IN DIABETICS

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This study was performed to evaluate the effect of splinting the abutment teeth under overdentures on their supporting periodontal structure~ in controlled diabetic patients. 24 diabetic patients were selected. had edentulous maxillary arch and standing mandibular canines and second premolars. The patients were divided into 3 groups. The first group had their abutments covered with coping In the second group the abutments on either sides were supplied with coping and a bar splinting the two abutments together. In the third group. the four abutments were covered with coping & splinted all together by bars. All patients were supplied with a conventional upper-denture and lower overdenture Clinical and roentgenographical examinations were performed to all groups at the time of insertion of overdenture. after six and twelve months of wearing overdentures. Clinical examination included Gingival Index. Pocket dept~and measuring gingival fluid. while radiographic examination was applied to measure the amount of proximal alveolar bone loss. The findings of the results showed that the conditions of the supporting structures were best when all the abutments were splinted together. Splinting them on either side of the arch showed better results than when they were individually standing.