

Oral Health, Masticatory Efficiency and Prosthetic Treatment in Older Patients

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The population of developed nations is ageing the world over resulting in many more older people needing oral health care. Historically many were edentulous but we are now faced with more dentate older people but with limited dentitions. There is an increasing awareness of the relationship between oral function and foods choice which may have a direct impact on diet leading to self-imposed dietary restriction in older people. At the same time energy requirements reduce and micro-nutrient requirements remain constant in older populations, changes that are diametrically opposed to the normal pattern of dietary change seen with reduced masticatory functional this presentation will explore the interactions between oral health and nutrition in older people and strategies that should be used to help our older patients maintain the diet they require into old age.