

## WHAT TO EXPECT WITH IMMEDIATE DENTURES

Going from natural teeth to a denture is a big adjustment for any patient. The patient's ability to chew food decreases about 90%. Taste of food and often speech may be altered at first. In general, an upper denture is easier to adjust to than a lower denture. The amount of stability of a denture depends on several things and not all people adapt to dentures as well as others. We will do everything in our power to help you adjust to your new dentures, however, the patient must realise that dentures are a satisfactory replacement for having no teeth at all but they very rarely function as well as natural teeth.

For 3-5 weeks after the delivery of your dentures, you may require follow up appointments to adjust the denture as your mouth heals and the dentures settle in. Because the lab have to estimate the shape of the ridge when extracting and immediately placing dentures, it is not possible to get an accurate a fit as you would with conventional dentures. It is normal for the denture to loosen further as your mouth heals. The ridges that held your teeth in before will shrink and change shape. Most of your changes will occur in the first three months and then the ridge will begin to stabilize.

Therefore, you must accept the fit will not be wholly accurate, and there will be a degree of looseness of the denture. This will worsen for next few months.

## DIFFICULTIES AND PROBLEMS WITH WEARING DENTURES

- Difficulties with speaking and/or eating
- Food under dentures
- Functional problems
- Loose dentures
- Lack of retention
- Need for adhesives
- Feeling of fullness
- Increased saliva production
- Effect(s) of poor ridge shape and form.
- The possible need for future relines and remakes of either immediate or conventional dentures – each treatment will carry a further fee

### Additional Points:

- Immediate dentures are transitional dentures and must be relined or remade, usually about three to nine months following insertion.
- A complete lower immediate denture, or partial denture where there are no teeth on either side of the mouth, will be particularly loose. In such cases, the patient may struggle with a denture.
- Some patients will never tolerate a denture.
- Ideally, a complete denture is best supported by implants – though this is not available on the NHS.
- Bone resorption will continue throughout my lifetime making subsequent denture construction more difficult, less satisfying, and less comfortable for me than my previous denture experience.