



Report of the First International Conference of The Pakistan Prosthodontics Association (PPA)

Held at University of Health Sciences (UHS) Lahore (Pakistan) 12-15 October 2012

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Chairman Scientific Committee, 1st International Conference of the Pakistan Prosthodontics Association & Head of Department of Prosthodontics, Khyber College of Dentistry, University Campus Peshawar 25120 (Pakistan).

The long awaited dream of holding an international conference under the auspices of the Pakistan Prosthodontics Association finally came true. This event was very special with reference to several aspects. It received tremendous response from all the senior and young prosthodontists in the land, as well as from the postgraduate prosthodontic trainees and the undergraduate clinical students of BDS and Dental House Officers and General Dental Practitioners. At the same time, it is worthy to mention this event also had its tremendous support extended by the University of Health Sciences (UHS) Lahore, Government of Punjab, College of Physicians & Surgeons Pakistan and most importantly from our senior academics in the profession including; Professor Cees de Baat and Professor Michiel Hendrik Steenks of the Department of Oral Function and Prosthetic Dentistry, Radboud University, Nijmegen, The Netherlands, and Professor Dr. Mutlu Ozcan, Professor & Research Associate at the Clinical Dental Biomaterials, University Medical Center Groningen, Department of Dentistry & Dental Hygiene, University Medical Center, The Netherlands and Head of Dental Materials Unit, Dental School at the University of Zurich, Switzerland.

The Organizing Committee of the PPA in general and Prof Dr. Nazia Yazdanie Chairman Organizing Committee and myself Dr. Fazal Ghani in the capacity as Chairman Scientific Committee of the PPA 1st International conference and now as the President Elect PPA in particular, express gratitude to Mr. Shahbaz Sharif, The Honourable Chief Minister Punjab who is known for his tremendous love and interest in reforming the Education and Health Sector in Punjab. The Honourable CM issued special directives for the support of our event to all concerned for ensuring full security of our guest speakers from abroad and also for expressing kind and supporting words in his message for the occasion. We are also extremely grateful to Honourable Khwaja Salman Rafiq, Advisor to CM Punjab for Health Affairs, Mr. Ahmad, Rijwana, PSO to CM Punjab, Mr. Arif, PS to Advisor Health Government of Punjab and the Senior Police Officers and Jawans of the Protocol and Security wing of the Provincial Police Department. Without their excellent support and help this event would not have been so successful.

In his message for the PPA conference, The Chief Minister Punjab, Mr. Muhammad Shahbaz Sharif praised the effort of the PPA by holding its very first event in Lahore. He wished that the deliberations of this specialist conference will help further improving the level of specialized dental care in the country. The message from the President CPSP, Professor Zafarullah Choudhry, highlighted the importance of the PPA meeting facilitating know-how about the

trends and advancement in knowledge and technology in the specialty. The message of the Honourable Vice Chancellor University of Health Sciences (UHS) Lahore, Professor I.A. Naveed, considered the PPA conference theme "Transforming oral health related quality of life through functional and aesthetic restorations" as the most appropriate by adding that oral health is central to the general health and well-being of the people and treating people with oral disabilities brings tremendous improvement in quality of their life.

The PPA conference received its well-deserved support from the Heads of all dental schools by personally coming, attending and chairing the various scientific sessions and social events. In this regard, it is worthy to mention few including; Professor Dr. MA Soofi, Ex-Principal, Institute of Public Health Lahore, Major General Noor Husain Ex-Commandant AFID, Professor Dr. Yaqoob Baig Mirza Principal Fatima Memorial Dental College Lahore, Professor Dr. M. Rafique Chattha, Principal Lahore Medical & Dental College Lahore, Professor Dr. Ayyaz Ali Khan Head of Dental Section Sheikh Zaid Hospital Lahore. Professor Dr. Mughees Baig, Principal Dental College of the University of Lahore and Professor Dr. Muhammad Zulfiqar, Principal, Dental Section, Multan Medical & Dental College, Multan. In addition, many senior dentists from all-over the country while representing their institution on the occasion also came in person. A few among these to mention included; Dr. Muhammad Hussain Head of Department of Prosthodontics Hamdard University School of Dentistry, Karachi, Dr. Amin Butt, LUMH Hyderabad, Dr. Talha Mufeed Siddiqui of the Baqai Dental College Karachi, Dr. Yawar Ali Abidi of the Dr. Ishrat -Ul- Ibad Khan Institute of Oral Health Science Karachi, Dr. Sameer Quraeshi of the Dow International Dental College Karachi and Dr. Irfan Quraeshi, a renowned oral implant prosthodontist from the Altamash Institute of Dental Medicine Karachi. Dr. Irfan also gave a highly relevant lecture on dental implants.

The PPA Cabinet and the Organizing Committee of the PPA Conference 2012 noted and appreciated the participation of clinical BDS students from all the dental colleges in the land but especially noted and recognized the predominant participation of the clinical BDS students from Khyber College of Dentistry Peshawar who brought a bus as well as their personal

vehicles full of students all the way from Peshawar. The Organizing Committee of PPA Conference 2012 especially appreciated Professor Dr. BA Yazdanie for his all-time help, guidance and presence in all the scientific and social events despite his health problems and senior age. Recognizing these as well as his life-long commitment to the specialty and the one as the most senior living legend of the specialty of prosthodontics in this country, the PPA chose him as the one for "Life-Time Achievement Award". This award was conferred on him by his daughter Professor Nazia Yazdanie, Chairman Organizing Committee of the PPA Conference 2012 and Immediate Past President of the PPA.

The guest speakers from abroad arrived in Lahore in the early morning of 11th October 2012. On that day in the afternoon, all the national and international delegates had the opportunity of visiting, with full Official protocol, the flag closing ceremony at the Pakistan-India Border at Wahga Lahore. It was a fantastic experience for all those being spectators for the first time for the various activities that happens on both sides of the border every evening. The guest speakers and all participants who joined for the occasion enjoyed the event with official protocol arranged especially for them. We are grateful to the Director General Border Security and the authorities of the Provincial and Federal Ministries of Interior.

On Friday 12 October in the morning, the first pre-conference half-day symposium on occlusion and temporomandibular disorders was conducted jointly by Professors Michiel Hendrik Steenks and Nazia Yazdanie. The topics of clinically relevant anatomy of TMJ, Diagnosis, imaging strategies in patients with TMD patients, construction of stabilization splints and clinical procedures for jaw relations registration were covered in depth by Professor Dr. Michiel Hendrik Steenks. The topics of the symposium generated extensive discussion with questions and answers. The role of multifactorial etiology including stress in TMD and its multimodal but predominantly conservative management was well-emphasized. Dr. Michiel Hendrik Steenks specifically emphasized on the importance of accurate diagnosis of the condition of TMD. He suggested that without diagnosis, treating TMD patients can never be justified. All the lectures of the symposium and the detailed discussion helped inculcating new insight and knowledge of the

diminishing role of occlusion and of the limited usefulness of the occlusal and surgical therapy for the TMD patients.



Figure 1: Dr. Fazal Ghani and Dr. Asif Ali Shah sharing a joyful moment with a member of the security personnel showing his vigor and strength for defending Pakistan and its national flag.



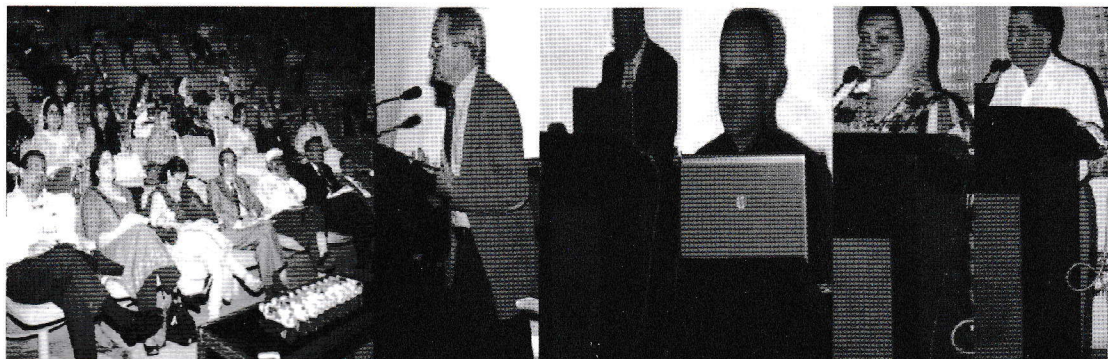
Professor Dr. de Baat and Professor Dr. M.H. Steenkens in the Conference Hall.

After the Friday Prayers and a sumptuous lunch break, the afternoon symposium on removable

partial dentures (RPD) was jointly conducted by Professor Dr. Cees de Baat and Dr. Fazal Ghani. Six lectures were planned for covering all the aspects of RPDs. The symposium started with the introductory lecture by Dr. Fazal Ghani, highlighting the Needs and Demands for RPDs. The relevant differences between the clinical needs and patients demands were explained. Many variables including age, social and financial status of the patient, location, extent and type of saddles and clinical experience and skills of the dentists were thought as the predominant aspects determining and influencing RPD therapy in patients with missing teeth. In general, it was pointed out that RPD therapy is mainly patients lead exhibiting a dominating role of esthetic rather than function as reasons for patients' demand for RPDs. In the second lecture, an in depth coverage of the RPD indications and design was given by Professor Dr. de Baat. All aspects of RPD indications and selection of components of the RPDs and their proper designing were presented with well-deserved clarity and understanding for the participants. In the third lecture with its topic "Overcoming barriers to utilization of RPD services" by Dr. Fazal Ghani, both the patients and dentists related problems as well as ways and means for overcoming the barriers to RPD service utilization were presented in depth. Various aspects enhancing satisfaction and acceptance of RPDs by patients were explained. Similarly, reasons and solutions pertaining to reluctance of general dental practitioners for prescribing RPDs to their patients were also highlighted.

Later in the evening, all the PPA active members and the guest speakers attended the PPA a sumptuous buffet dinner hosted by Professor Nazia Yazdanie, Immediate Past President PPA at the Golf Hall, Gymkhana Club Lahore. Interactive discussions about the future international linkages among the local and overseas institutions and departments were held among the guest speakers and participants. These friendly discussions between the members of the PPA and between local and international delegates continued till late at night in the beautiful Golf Hall of the Gymkhana club. It was the kind of dinner enjoyed by all members giving them a forum to discuss the ways and means for future activities of the PPA and

of the possibility of future joint activities with sister organizations abroad.



Speakers (L-R): Professor MH Steenks, Professor de Baat, Dr. Fazal Ghani, Prof. Nazia Yazdanie, Dr. Asif Ali Shah

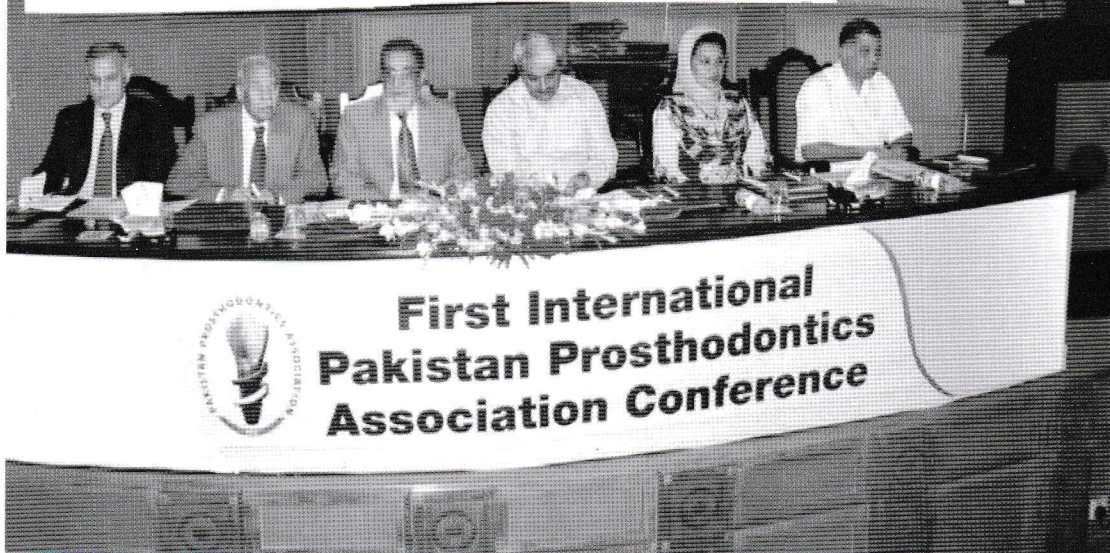
The fourth lecture given by Professor Dr. de Baat, focused on the clinical procedures for RPDs. The various biological and mechanical aspects governing and the relevant procedural details were explained with utmost clarity and simplicity. The fifth lecture, given by Dr. Fazal Ghani, focused on High-tech solutions and unconventional approaches and methods for RPDs... Relevant procedures, indications benefits and of the utilization and incorporation, in RPDs, of the mucodynamic design concepts, hinge connections, sectional RPDs, swing-lock RPDs and the various intra-coronal and extra-coronal precision attachments including magnets were among the aspects covered. The final and sixth lecture delivered by Professor Dr. de Baat focused on the topic of "After-care treatment related to RPD wearing. It highlighted on the various approaches to maintaining RPD functional and tissue-friendly for the patient. Many questions from the audience were answered by the speakers of the symposium.

The formal opening session of conference started in the morning of Saturday 13 October 2012. The Chief Guest for this event was Khwaja Salman Rafiq, Honourable Advisor to Chief Minister Punjab for Health. The moderator for this session was Dr. Asif Ali Shah, Chairman Registration Committee of the conference. The session started with the recitation of verses from the Holy Quran by Dr. Mahmood Hussain,

Head of the Department of Prosthodontics, Hamdard University College of Medicine & Dentistry Karachi. The President PPA and Chairperson of the Organizing Committee, Prof. Dr. Nazia Yazdanie gave a brief introduction of the PPA and its history, followed by speeches of the Conference Patron Professor B.A. Yazdanie, and the Chairman PPA International Conference, Professor Dr. Tariq Zaman Ahmad Dean Postgraduate Dental Studies, University of Lahore.

The Chairman Scientific Committee, Dr. Fazal Ghani, deliberated on the role of the College of Physicians & Surgeons Pakistan for utilizing the expertise of the then very few highly qualified prosthodontists. He pointed out that their combined effort has now lead to the availability of some one hundred different level specialists prosthodontists in this country in a short period of 10 years. He added that while the clinical services related to the specialty of prosthodontics could be better served by consultant prosthodontists, there is every reason for many of them to excel in research and innovation in the field of prosthodontics. This will bring the introduction of new treatment and technology in the field. It will also help in assessing the longevity, usefulness and cost effectiveness of existing therapies. He continued that research and innovation is the only way of generating economic activity and locally relevant solutions to our problems.

**FIRST INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
PAKISTAN PROSTHODONTICS ASSOCIATION
AT THE UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH SCIENCES
LAHORE (PAKISTAN): 12-15 OCTOBER 2012**



OPENING CEREMONY: FIRST INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF THE PAKISTAN PROSTHODONTICS ASSOCIATION

AT UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH SCIENCES LAHORE: 12-15 OCTOBER 2012

L TO R: KHWAJA SALMAN RAFIQ (ADVISOR TO CM PUNJAB FOR HEALTH), PROF. NAZIA YAZDANIE, DR FAZAL GHANI, PROF BA YAZDANIE, PROF. TARIQ ZAMAN AHMAD, DR ASIF ALI SHAH

In his inaugural speech, the Honourable Chief Guest, Khwaja Salman Rafiq, advisor to CM Punjab for Health Affairs, welcomed and appreciated the coming for the PPA event, of the renowned guest's speakers from the Netherlands and Switzerland. He added that such visits should continue during the many years to come as this will help benefiting from each other by sharing experiences and expertise. He highlighted that the

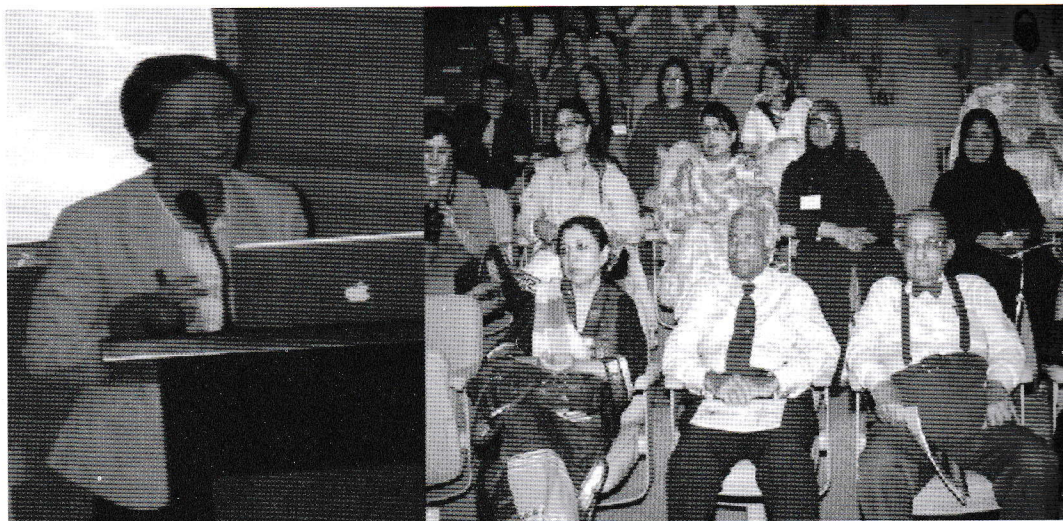
Government of Punjab headed by the Honourable Chief Minister Mr. Shahbaz Sharif has already taken widespread measures to expand and boost health-care system in the province. He added that the Government of Punjab is always prepared to help promoting oral health and education. He also mentioned that this event with renowned dental specialists will help further improve the level of

specialized dental care not only in the province of Punjab but also in the country. He congratulated the PPA conference organizers for holding their conference in Lahore and extended full support for ensuring the achievements of its targets. The inaugural session concluded with the presentation of the PPA conference shield to the Honourable Chief Guest, Khwaja Salman Rafiq by the President PPA and Chairperson Prof. Dr. Nazia Yazdanie Chairperson Organizing Committee on behalf of the Organizing Committee of the PPA Conference 2012.

After the Hi-Tea Break, the first "State of the Art Lecture" was delivered by Prof. Cees de Baat. He started his lecture with the epidemiology of edentulism within the global perspectives. He emphasized upon the increasing intra-oral and general systemic difficulties and complexities presented by a majority of edentulous patients who are very elderly. He deliberated upon the considerations and ways of addressing the five most significant aspects leading to complete dentures that will facilitate patients' acceptance and satisfaction with conventional complete dentures. This lecture was extremely well-received and conceived by the majority of both senior and young prosthodontists and students. It was such a nice and self explanatory narration with excellent clinical and diagrammatic illustrations of the various aspects of complete dentures that obviated the need for a question and left no ambiguity in any ones' mind.

The second "State of the Art Lecture" entitled; "the role of Occlusion in Temporomandibular disorders:

how to integrate research findings in your clinical approach" was delivered by Professor Dr. Michiel Hendrik Steenks. He highlighted that even in the most ideal thinkable situation with a steady flow of new findings and their implementation, the gap between research and the clinic will never be closed. He reiterated the importance of basic and clinical research for enhancing our understanding of the disease mechanism and its management. He added that universities can provide relevant adequate knowledge. He reminded the audience that there are wide differences among the acute, sub-acute and chronic cases of TMDs. He also informed the audience that most research on TMD has been done on chronic TMD cases. Therefore, it is necessary to be aware of the fact that this kind of research information may not be representative of patients diagnosed and treated in the dental office. He further added that combined treatment strategies are hardly indicated in acute and sub-acute TMD patients in comparison to the complex chronic patients treated in the specialist TMD clinics established within the universities. Thus he reminded the general dental practitioners of the superior efficacy of counseling, physiotherapy and occlusal splint therapy in most TMD cases seen by them with acute / sub-acute presentation forms. He elaborated upon the finding from research, of the role of occlusal characteristics and occlusal treatments in TMDs. He covered the subject in great depth with his full authority and command on the subject. His lecture proved so interesting for the participants that no one was ready to leave for the lunch waiting for them.



Professor Dr. M. Ozcan delivering "State of Art Lecture".

After the lunch break, the third "State of the Art Lecture" entitled: Materials for CAD-CAM: Criteria for their selection" was delivered by Professor Dr. Mutlu Ozcan. Her lecture focused on the historical developments in the field of CAD-CAM Dentistry with special reference to tooth restorations. She added that with the advances in technological developments, computerized systems are increasingly integrated in the dental therapeutic modalities. She reminded the participants that though the developments in this field are cutting edge, fundamental properties of the materials remain the same. She gave an overview on the current clinical possibilities, limitations and future perspectives with CAD/CAM systems and the corresponding materials. Video clips showing the production of prosthetic restoration using the latest restoration printing technology was shown to the participants. Because of the newness of the materials and technology involving CAD-CAM gadgets and devices, there were many queries from the audience to acquaint themselves. She elaborated upon the need of appropriate response to the possible impact and effect, in future, on the relevance and use of current conventional dental materials and laboratory technology because of the rapid adoption and acceptance of this new technology by most dental practitioners in the world. She also explained that with the availability of internet and facilities for

multiple milling stations established at various centres across Europe, USA and Japan, the need for having onsite milling facilities in the dental clinic may not remain a necessity for producing CAD-CAM restorations. Optical impression and digital data of oral survey can be transported via internet to distant centre where the restoration can be milled or printed. There were many questions from the audience to know more about this area and all questions were not only relevant but were answered very precisely by Dr. Ozcan with an ever-smiling response. In general, the participants realized that in future, in addition to the present facilities for milling tooth-supported and implants-supported fixed dental prostheses, it would be possible to have the required materials for milling removable partial and complete dentures with utmost standardization and precision.

The last lecture of the afternoon scientific session was an update of denture fixatives with reference to a proprietary product available in Pakistan. This was presented by Dr. Asif Ali Shah. Knowing the level of competencies of the majority of specialist prosthodontists on the occasion, the topic was discussed in depth after the presentation. Dr. Ghani pointed out that when prescribing denture fixatives for denture wearers, dentists generally feel this as stigma on their professional competence. Despite this 75 % dental practitioners in North America and even more than this figure in the rest of the world prescribe

denture fixatives to their denture wearing patients. He mentioned two main and justifiable indications for the use of denture fixatives; with one at the jaw registration and trial stage using temporary denture bases and the other when there is need for faster facilitation of the neuromuscular learning ability for the patient to control his new dentures. The discussion was rounded off with comments from Dr. Fazal Ghani who specifically referred to Professor Dr. de Baat Lecture that highlighted the importance of addressing the various significant aspects of complete denture construction leading to its acceptance and satisfaction of patients. He also reminded the advice of Prof de Baat to all for learning the making of good dentures having perfect aspects and features. Without this the complete dentures worn by patients will be felt loose / unstable. In the absence of the understanding necessary for managing this aspect of the denture, general dental practitioners including those in USA and other developed and developing countries will be seeking the help from denture fixatives. Thus it was highlighted that tons of denture fixatives will be manufactured prescribed by dentists and used by patients. He reminded to all that as mentioned by Professor de Baat, a majority of the practitioners have yet to understand the differences between the terms "loose denture" and "poorly retentive denture". A loose denture in fact reflects many of the poor aspects of complete denture including poor denture retention.

The PPA conference Gala Dinner for all the participants was held at the Lawns of main campus of the University of Health Sciences Lahore. A variety of food items including BBQ were prepared for all the participants and eminent invited guests and served by ever-smiling staff of the university. This event continued till late at night with a cultural show. This dinner as well as the cultural show was very much enjoyed by all participants including the international guest speakers. During this event, conference shields were awarded to the International guest speakers and members of the Organizing Committee of the PPA first international conference. Professor Nazia Yazdanie, the Chairman Organizing Committee and the President PPA handed over, to Dr. Fazal Ghani, the position of the President Elect PPA by retaining the honour of the Immediate Past President of the PPA.

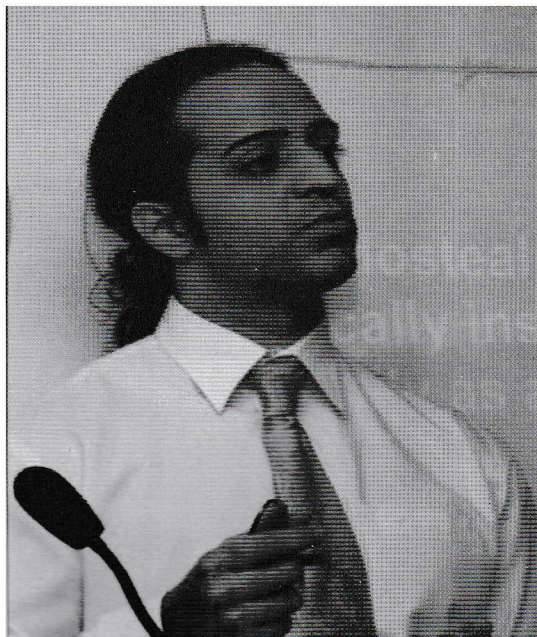
The first scientific session on Sunday 14 October started at 09:30 AM sharp. It was really surprising to have the auditorium with a capacity of 350 seating full of participants on an early Sunday morning. Obviously, the reason for this was the interest in the lecture entitled; "Long-term Clinical Experience with Direct Versus Indirect Bonded Bridges: A Therapy Comparison" by Professor Dr MutluÖzcan, Head of Dental Materials Unit, University of Zurich, Switzerland. The very emphasis of this well-elaborated lecture was to highlight the developments in adhesive dentistry making classical prosthodontics very much less invasive. In her state of the art lecture on the topic, Professor Dr. Ozcan succeeded well in presenting in detail the background information on various materials for direct and indirect bonded fixed dental prosthesis (FDP). Application procedures were nicely explained in a step-by-step fashion. The clinical longevity with such materials were compared to conventional full coverage tooth-borne and implant-supported FDPs. It was a kind of lecture that elicited tremendous interest of the participants by asking explanations for many of their concerns related to the efficacy, tooth preparation and FDP design, procedures and techniques for cementation and protocols for follow-up. Dr. Ozcan responded to all concerns and queries of the participants very nicely leaving them satisfied and willing to incorporate these FDPs in their practices for the benefits of their patients.

This session continued with the next lecture by Dr. Irfan Qureshi, BDS, MSc (London), Diplomat of the International Congress of Oral Implantologist (ICOI) who is also working as Head, Department of Prosthodontics at the Altamash Institute of Dental Medicine, Karachi. His lecture entitled "Predictable Results in Unpredictable Times" was thought provoking. This lecture placed emphasis on the need for all practitioners to be aware of the cardinal principles of implant surgery, prosthetics and periodontal and regenerative techniques. He reminded the importance for all those practicing implant dentistry to possess certain knowledge and skill set in all the involved disciplines. The presenter demonstrated techniques such as lateral window sinus grafts, implant placement and restoration in the aesthetic zone, guided bone regeneration, accurate placement and restoration in narrow spaces and different impression techniques, by sharing his own

cases. He mentioned about many of the problematic areas that require consideration when planning for the surgical placement of implants in the various locations of the jaws and their subsequent reconstruction with prostheses. His main emphasis

was to educate the general dental practitioners to know their knowledge and skill limits when treating cases with dental implants. He successfully showed various situations that could be regarded beyond the skill domains of an average general dentist.





The ending of this lecture led to the disruption of pin-drop silence with many questions from the audience. While appreciating this excellent lecture, Dr. Ghani, reminded the audience to be very cognizant of the International Team for Implantology (ITI) Classification that explains the various complexity levels pertaining to both the surgical and restorative aspects of the implant-supported prostheses. These ITI guidelines updated in 2009, very nicely categorize the various clinical situations and treatment options into the three main levels; Straight-forward, Advanced and Complex, thus alerting all involved not to go beyond the level of their clinical competence limits and to refer cases to concerned specialist that they consider complex and beyond their competency domains.

The next session was a very special session dedicated to the presentation of research by prosthodontics postgraduate students with cash prize awards given to all participants. In all 10 presentations were made by students covering aspects of FDP longevity and complications (Dr. Nazia Zafar, KCD, Peshawar), Unfavourable intra-oral features of Edentulism and treatment complexity (Dr. Sheema Shakir, KCD, Peshawar), Evaluation of resin bonded posterior bridges (Rafique A. Muhammad, DMCD, Lahore), Bar Attachment in overdentures (Dr. Samiullah Khan,

SBDC, Peshawar), Role of depression in dissatisfaction with complete dentures (Dr. Amna Masood, DMCD, Lahore), Comparison of efficacy of occlusal splint therapy and self-care in TMD management (Dr. Sumaira Anwar Khan, DMCD, Lahore), *Helicobacter pylori* in denture plaque (Dr. Muhammad Amjad, AFID, Rawalpindi), Tooth-shade perceptibility by UG students, House Surgeons & PG residents (Dr. Muhammad Umar Javed, AFID, Rawalpindi), Bonding of Zirconia based ceramics (Dr. Aamir Rafiq, SBDC, Peshawar) and Subjective assessment of obturator functioning in patients with hemi-maxillectomy (Dr. Muhammad Waseemullah Khan). All the presentations were evaluated and judged by the worthy Guests from abroad including Professor Dr. de Baat and Professor Dr. Mutlu Ozcan. They appreciated the thoroughness of the students in making so excellent presentations based on quality research making it difficult for them to declare the best among them. Thus in addition to the first, second and third best presentations, they were compelled to recommend cash prizes to all participants which was kindly accepted by the Members of the Organizing Committee of the PPA Conference.

After the lunch break, a live television broadcast panel discussion on the "Role of Dental Prostheses in Restoring and Transforming Quality of Life of Patients" was held in the conference hall. This session was also attended by all participants with discussion among the Guest Speakers from the Netherlands and Switzerland. The topic was introduced by Dr. Fazal Ghani, with a presentation of national data on the oro-dental problems and their reasons and barriers to overcoming them. Because of the loss of many teeth in all age groups, it was thought that there is tremendous restorative and prosthodontics workload in this country. In this scenario, because of the socio-economic constraints of the populace, the lack of availability of infra-structure and trained manpower in the field of prosthodontics, people will receive more commonly the ordinary acrylic removable partial dentures that have not received universal acceptance all-over the world. To bring quality and offer quality restorations, the guest participants were of the view that the government must focus on education, preventive dental programs and by utilizing every available source including media, school and community dental health programs

so that teeth are saved and retained till the last stage of life. When this has been achieved, trained specialists will be available for bringing quality in their restorations that will surely address the very rightly chosen theme of this conference "Role of dental prostheses in restoring and transforming quality of life".

Last but never the least, the conference ended up, with a unique post-conference workshop on crowns and bridges using the latest materials and technology marketed by GC Corporation. The PPA feels highly indebted to Mr. Jyrki Kurokallio, Managing Director, Stick Tech Ltd, a member of GC Corporation, for providing free kits for training of 90 participants of the workshop. The kits supplied included; everStickC&B 1x8cm sales unit, everStickC&B Educational DVD, everStickC&B Clinical Guide, brochure, laminated instruction card showing alternative fibre frames for bridges in anterior area, laminated instruction card showing alternative fibre frames for bridges in posterior area, everStickPERIO 5cm sample, everStickPERIO laminated instruction card. Free kits were also given to the representatives of the various public sector and private dental schools and representatives of the General Dental Practitioners. It is worthy to mention that EverStickC&B is a fibre reinforced material which Prof Özcan has used for treating more than 200 patients by making crowns and bridges for them in this material. She has followed the outcome of this treatment now for 6-8 years with outstanding results. This makes us to suggest and recommend the use of everStickC&B as a material with proven long-term efficacy when replacing missing teeth in all segments of the jaws in this material. Additionally, the new

material EverStickPERIO that was used for demonstrating splinting of natural teeth was also supplied free of cost by the said company. (An abstract of a clinical study available at:

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/22001066>).

It is worthy to mention that with the use of these materials, fixed dental prostheses and splinting of natural teeth can be made and done in the clinic without the need for sending impressions / casts to the dental laboratory for such work to be carried out in the laboratory. Because of the large number of participants (some more than 100), Professor Dr M. Özcan had to kindly demonstrate the bridge fabrication and splint making techniques in four rounds that kept her busy the whole day till late in the afternoon. Highlighting the popularity and simplicity of the technique demonstrated by Prof Dr Mutlu Özcan, the Guest Facilitator of this workshop, Dr. Ghani emphasized upon the need for learning and possession by the dental clinicians, of the excellent material manipulation and handling skills. He added that this will help in the proper fabrication of the FDP / Splint in the clinic with the use of these new innovative materials. Free kits of the everStickC&B and everStickPERIO and related marketing and clinical case demonstration literature including DVD were given to all participants and their institutions. Extra kits were given to those present for onward distribution to dental schools whose representative did not make to come to the event. Further information on these products and their indications are published at www.sticktech.com



Figure: Participants with Professor Dr. Mutlu Ozcan during the workshop for demonstrating them the making of fixed dental prostheses with the new material everStickC&B and during the fabrication of periodontal splinting of natural teeth with everStickPERIO.