

Patients with missing jaws and facial parts to get advanced rehabilitation at KGMU

Department of Prosthodontics, KGMU organized a full day National Workshop on Maxillofacial Prosthodontics on September 8, 2018.

The Workshop was conducted by Prof. Kanchan Dholam, Head of Dental and Prosthetic Services, Tata Memorial Cancer Hospital (which is the premier and largest cancer treatment hospital of India), and team.

Prof. Pooran Chand, Head Prosthodontics Department, KGMU said that Head and Neck Cancers have the highest prevalence in India, probably because of widespread tobacco usage. The common treatment of such tumors is surgical removal, leading to creation of large facial or jaw defects, he said. "Though, this may save the life of the patient, the quality of life is seriously hampered, due to adverse effects on appearance and routine activities such as speaking, smiling, swallowing, chewing & eating." said the HOD.

"Such patients suffer enormous psychological impact, leading to their becoming social outcasts and sometimes shutting themselves from the world" said Prof Dholam.

Hon'ble Vice Chancellor Prof. MLB Bhatt said that the workshop proved immensely beneficial to Prosthodontists by providing vital and new information on rehabilitating such patients and restoring defects prosthetically. He said it is a matter of pride that KGMU is one of the largest and most advanced centres in North India for maxillofacial prosthetic treatment. He informed that most of this treatment was rendered free of cost to cancer patients.

Prof. Saumyendra V Singh, Organizing Secretary of the workshop, said that maxillofacial prosthetic rehabilitation was vital to return head and neck cancer patients to the mainstream. He informed that the workshop also provided training in Implant supported facial and jaw prosthesis to rehabilitate patients faster, more predictably and to higher levels of comfort, making it the preferred treatment modality.

Dr Deeksha Arya, Workshop Scientific Secretary, said that this was one of the largest workshops on Maxillofacial Prosthodontics in India, with over 200 attending specialists. There were around 40 research presentations by various Doctors on different aspects of Prosthetic Rehabilitation of Head and Neck Cancer patients.