

International College of Prosthodontists London Symposium – Satellite Meeting August 30 – September 2, 2023

Invited Speaker – David A. Felton

Title

Why Dentures Matter

Abstract

When one considers the advances in preventive and restorative dentistry over the past 50+ years, it seems as though the prevalence of complete edentulism SHOULD be nearly extinct. Dental caries and periodontal disease, both preventable diseases, remain the primary etiologic factors responsible for edentulism globally. Recent reports place the prevalence of complete edentulism as 4.9% in the US, 6.4% in Canada, 8.5% in South Africa, 9% is China, 16.3% in India, 18% in Russia, and 21.7% in Mexico. The prevalence increases in the older populations. In spite of the growth of dental implant therapy since the introduction of the concept of osseointegration by PI Branemark, many edentulous patients simply cannot afford implant related reconstruction. This presentation will focus on the factors related to complete edentulism, and will document the importance of complete denture prosthetics globally.

Biography

Dr. David Felton completed his DDS, Certificate in Prosthodontics, and MS degrees at the University of North Carolina School of Dentistry (UNC) in 1977 and 1984, respectfully. He entered academics at UNC in 1984, and served as Graduate Prosthodontics Program Director, and Department Chair during his 28 years on the faculty. In 2011, he became the Dean of the WVU School of Dentistry, and in 2016 became the Dean of the University of Mississippi School of Dentistry. Retiring in November of 2020, he returned to part-time academics at UNC in 2021, and served as interim Director of Graduate Prosthodontics from January 2022 through June of 2023. Dr. Felton has served as president of the American College of Prosthodontists, the Academy of Prosthodontics, the American Board of Prosthodontics, and currently serves as co-vice President of the International College of Prosthodontists. He has published over 60 manuscripts in peer-reviewed journals. His research focus is on edentulism and co-morbid factors.