Provisionalization in Prosthodontics: A Literature Review

Supriya Singh, Shitij Srivastava, Abhinav Shekhar, Abhishek Singh

Department of Prosthodontics and Crown & Bridge, Sardar Patel Post Graduate Institute of Dental and Medical Sciences, Lucknow (Uttar Pradesh)

ABSTRACT:

Provisionalization in prosthodontics is a crucial process in the restoration of missing teeth, where temporary prostheses are used to maintain esthetics, function, and gingival health before the final restoration is placed. The choice of materials and techniques for provisional restoration significantly influences clinical outcomes.

This review aims to provide a comprehensive analysis of the materials and techniques used in provisional restorations, with an emphasis on their functional and esthetic outcomes, as well as their impact on long-term treatment success.

A detailed literature review was conducted on studies published between 2010 and 2025, which discuss the different materials (e.g., acrylics, composite resins, and metals) and techniques (e.g., direct and indirect methods) used in provisionalization.

The review identifies that acrylic-based materials remain the most commonly used for provisional restorations due to their ease of manipulation and esthetic qualities. However, composite resins are gaining popularity for their superior mechanical properties and better fit. Additionally, the use of CAD/CAM technology for fabricating provisional restorations has been associated with improved precision and reduced chair-side time.

Provisionalization plays a significant role in the overall success of prosthodontic treatments. The choice of materials and techniques should be tailored to individual patient needs, considering factors like esthetics, functionality, and longevity. Further research is needed to evaluate the long-term effects of newer materials and digital technologies in provisional restoration fabrication.

KEY WORDS: Provisional restoration, PMMA, Bis-acryl composite, CAD/CAM, Direct technique