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DIGITAL VS CONVENTIONAL PROSTHODONTICS

Prosthodontics is as much about art as it is about science and I guess this is where it differs from the rest. The conventional clinical procedures which are a part of our everyday prosthodontics have always been about the operators' capability to judge and correctly decide on the specific procedure where their clinical acumen and skill would be on abundant display. But in the fast evolving world of prosthodontics, there has been a gradual but a definite change from our conventional clinical procedures being taken over by technology and today we find ourselves in the midst of a technology revolution that is defying the conventional norms that we have based our foundations on!

The question to be asked here is how do we decide what is necessary and what isn't? Is everything digital good? Is it foolproof? How about longevity? Are certain questions that force us to look into evidence base and come up with answers. Though all technology revolutions do not have long term studies to provide sufficient evidence base, we still have to address questions of both the operators and the laymen.

A lot of research work in this regard is being done in developed countries and it is time we stepped up and focus more on these uncharted areas of prosthodontics as core areas for research. We have the resources and manpower and it is time we developed scientific temper to delve into providing answers in such areas hitherto unexplored.