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Career Development Program*

**V2538**  
**Flexible vs. Rigid Removable Partial Dentures (RPDs)**

Gordon J. Christensen, DDS, MSD, PhD

**Materials Included:**

C.E. Instruction Sheet  
Products List  
Clinician Responsible  
Goals & Objectives  
Overview  
Supplemental Materials  
AGD Post-Test

**Gordon J. Christensen**  
**PRACTICAL CLINICAL COURSES**

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**PRACTICAL CLINICAL COURSES**  
*Sources of Products Discussed in*  
**V2538 Flexible vs. Rigid Removable Partial Dentures (RPDs)**  
Presented by Gordon J. Christensen, DDS, MSD, PhD

1. **AccuFilm II**  
Parkell, Inc.  
300 Executive Drive  
Edgewood, NY 11717  
(800)243-7446  
(631)249-1134  
[www.parkell.com](http://www.parkell.com)
2. **Bayflex Flexible Partial**  
Bayshore Dental Studio  
501 East Jackson Street  
Tampa, FL 33602  
(877)954-6243  
[www.bayshoredentalstudio.com](http://www.bayshoredentalstudio.com)
3. **DuraFlex Partial**  
Myerson LLC  
5106 North Ravenswood  
Chicago, IL 60640-2713  
(800)423-2683  
(312)432-8200  
[www.myersonstooth.com](http://www.myersonstooth.com)
4. **Fit Checker Advanced**  
GC America Inc.  
3737 West 127<sup>th</sup> Street  
Alsip, IL 60803  
(800)323-7063  
(708)597-0900  
[www.gcamerica.com](http://www.gcamerica.com)
5. **Flexite Plus**  
Flexite Company  
40 Roselle Street  
Mineola, NY 11501  
(866)353-9483  
(516)746-2622  
[www.flexitecompany.com](http://www.flexitecompany.com)
6. **Flexite T-VAL**  
Flexite Company  
40 Roselle Street  
Mineola, NY 11501  
(866)353-9483  
(516)746-2622  
[www.flexitecompany.com](http://www.flexitecompany.com)
7. **Hot Air Welder**  
Various Companies
8. **iFlex Flexible Partial**  
TCS Dental Inc.  
2619 North Lime Avenue  
Signal Hill, CA 90755  
(866)426-2970  
(562)426-2970  
[www.tcsdentalinc.com](http://www.tcsdentalinc.com)
9. **Madame Butterfly Silk**  
Hager Worldwide /Almore  
441 19<sup>th</sup> Street SE  
Hickory, NC 28602  
(800)328-2335  
[www.hagerworldwide.com](http://www.hagerworldwide.com)
10. **Occlusal Indicator Wax**  
Kerr Corporation  
200 S. Kraemer Blvd.  
Building E2  
Brea, CA 92821  
(800)537-7123  
[www.kerrdental.com](http://www.kerrdental.com)
11. **SunFlex Partial Dentures**  
Sun Dental Labs  
1800 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue North  
St. Petersburg, FL 33713  
(866)561-9777  
[www.sundentalabs.com](http://www.sundentalabs.com)
12. **TCS JP90 Handheld Injector**  
Henry Schein  
135 Duryea Road  
Melville, NY 11747  
(800)372-4346  
(631)843-5500  
[www.henryschein.com](http://www.henryschein.com)
13. **TrollFoil**  
Directa USA  
64 Barnabas Road  
Unit 3  
Newtown, CT 06470  
(800)537-8765  
[www.trolldentalusa.com](http://www.trolldentalusa.com)
14. **Unbreakable Flexible Partial**  
TCS Dental Inc.  
2619 North Lime Avenue  
Signal Hill, CA 90755  
(866)426-2970  
(562)426-2970  
[www.tcsdentalinc.com](http://www.tcsdentalinc.com)
15. **Valplast Flexible Partial**  
Valplast International Corp.  
35 Doyle Court, Ste 5  
East Northport, NY 11731  
(516)442-3923  
[www.valplast.com](http://www.valplast.com)

***Product names, the products themselves, and company names change rapidly. Please contact the companies shown to confirm current information.***

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## **PROGRAM**

### **V2538 Flexible vs. Rigid Removable Partial Dentures (RPDs)**

#### **CLINICIAN RESPONSIBLE:**

**Gordon J. Christensen, DDS, MSD, PhD**  
Founder and CEO, Practical Clinical Courses  
Senior Consultant & Previous CEO, CR Foundation  
Practicing Prosthodontist, Provo, Utah

#### **GOALS & OBJECTIVES**

At the completion of this video presentation, viewers should be able to:

1. List the Kennedy classification of partially edentulous patients.
2. Explain each of the Kennedy classifications for partially edentulous patients.
3. List the indications for flexible dentures.
4. Explain why the listed indications are well suited for flexible dentures.
5. List the contraindications for flexible dentures.
6. Explain why the listed contraindications are not well suited for flexible dentures.
7. List the advantages for flexible dentures.
8. List the limitations for flexible dentures.
9. List the major material types for flexible dentures.
10. Compare the physical characteristics of the two major material types for flexible dentures.
11. List the clinical steps for making a flexible RPD.
12. Explain how to make minor repairs for a flexible denture.
13. List the benefit codes for flexible RPDs.
14. Compare color stability of flexible partial denture base with PMMA.
15. Compare patient satisfaction with flexible dentures vs. rigid dentures.
16. Compare laboratory costs for flexible vs. rigid dentures.
17. Compare clinical fees for flexible vs. rigid dentures.
18. Suggest methods to adjust flexible dentures.
19. Comment on the potential future for flexible dentures.
20. Integrate the knowledge in this video into your practice.

## OVERVIEW

### **V2538 Flexible vs. Rigid Removable Partial Dentures (RPDs)**

Flexible removable partial dentures have become a mainstay of prosthodontic procedures for some dentists, but they are still controversial. About 70% of USA dentists place flexible dentures at least some of the time, but the remaining 30% do not use them. There are some important indications, but also some significant contraindications. This presentation ranges from the potential uses for flexible dentures to the techniques and on to the future potential for this type of prosthesis. The following topics are included:

- Kennedy classification of partially edentulous patients
- Content of the Kennedy classifications for partially edentulous patients
- Indications for flexible dentures
- Why the listed indications are well suited for flexible dentures
- Contraindications for flexible dentures
- Contraindications are not well suited for flexible dentures
- Advantages for flexible dentures
- Limitations for flexible dentures
- Major material types for flexible dentures
- Physical characteristics of the two major material types for flexible dentures
- Clinical steps for making a flexible RPD
- How to make minor repairs for a flexible denture
- Benefit codes for flexible RPDs
- Color stability of flexible partial denture base with PMMA
- Patient satisfaction with flexible dentures vs. rigid dentures
- Laboratory costs for flexible vs. rigid dentures
- Clinical fees for flexible vs. rigid dentures
- Methods to adjust flexible dentures
- Potential future for flexible dentures
- Integrating knowledge in this video into your practice

## SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS

### **V2538 Flexible vs. Rigid Removable Partial Dentures (RPDs)**

1. Kumar N, Koli DK, Jain V, Nanda A. Stress distribution and patient satisfaction in flexible and cast metal removable partial dentures: Finite element analysis and randomized pilot study. *J Oral Biol Craniofac Res.* 2021 Oct-Dec;11(4):478-485.
2. Mendoza-Carrasco I, Hotta J, Sugio CYC, Procópio ALF, Urban VM, Mosquim V, *et al.* Nonmetal clasp dentures: What is the evidence about their use? *J Indian Prosthodont Soc.* 2020 July-Sept;20(3):278-84.
3. Sonnahalli NK, Mishra SK, Chowdhary R. Attitude of dental professionals toward cast partial denture: A questionnaire survey in India. *J Indian Prosthodont Soc.* 2020 Jan-Mar;20(1):104-109.
4. Saeed F, Muhammad N, Khan AS, Sharif F, Rahim A, Ahmad P, Irfan M. Prosthodontics dental materials: From conventional to unconventional. *Mater Sci Eng C Mater Biol Appl.* 2020 Jan;106:110167.
5. Akinyamoju CA, Dosumu OO, Taiwo JO, Ogunrinde TJ, Akinyamoju AO. Oral health-related quality of life: acrylic versus flexible partial dentures. *Ghana Med J.* 2019 Jun;53(2):163-169.
6. Christensen GJ. Flexible vs. Rigid Removable Partial Dentures. *Gordon J. Christensen Clinicians Report.* 2018 Apr;11(4):1, 4-5.
7. Akinyamoju CA, Ogunrinde TJ, Taiwo JO, Dosumu OO. Comparison of Patient Satisfaction with Acrylic and Flexible Partial Dentures. *Niger Postgrad Med J.* 2017 July-Sept;24(3):143-9.
8. Hundal M, Madan BR. Comparative clinical evaluation of removable partial dentures made of two different materials in Kennedy Applegate class II partially edentulous situation. *Med J Armed Forces India.* 2015 Dec;71(Suppl 2):S306-12.
9. Christensen GJ. Flexible, Removable Partial Dentures – Good or Bad? *Gordon J. Christensen Clinicians Report.* 2011 Jan;4(1):1, 4.
10. Goiato MC, Santos DM, Haddad MF, Pesqueira AA. Effect of accelerated aging on the microhardness and color stability of flexible resins for dentures. *Braz Oral Res.* 2010 Jan-Mar;24(1):114-9.

## POST-TEST

### **V2538 Flexible vs. Rigid Removable Partial Dentures (RPDs)**

1. Flexible RPDs are especially indicated for Kennedy Class \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. I
  - b. II
  - c. III
  - d. IV
  
2. A contraindication for flexible RPDs is:
  - a. Kennedy Class I
  - b. Bruxers
  - c. Kennedy Class II
  - d. Kennedy Class IV
  
3. A limitation for flexible partials is that:
  - a. they are difficult to repair.
  - b. they cannot be relined.
  - c. they can become more rigid in service.
  - d. all the above.
  
4. The lab cost for flexible partials is usually \_\_\_\_\_ for rigid partials.
  - a. higher than
  - b. lower than
  - c. about the same as
  
5. The cost to the patient for flexible partials is usually \_\_\_\_\_ for rigid partials.
  - a. higher than
  - b. lower than
  - c. about the same as
  
6. Flexible partials are usually preferred by patients.
  - a. True
  - b. False
  
7. Coding for flexible partials is the same as for rigid partials.
  - a. True
  - b. False

**POST-TEST (CONT'D)**

**V2538 Flexible vs. Rigid Removable Partial Dentures (RPDs)**

- 8. The clinical procedure for flexible partials:
  - a. is always the same as for rigid partials.
  - b. can be simpler than for rigid partials.
  - c. is always simpler than for rigid partials.
  
- 9. Nylon flexible partials are:
  - a. the most commonly used.
  - b. the first developed form of flexible partial.
  - c. usually more flexible than polyolefin.
  - d. all the above.
  
- 10. Clasps of flexible RPDs:
  - a. can be heated in hot water and retightened.
  - b. cannot be retightened.

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