

Systematic Review

Comparison of Canine-Guided Occlusion with Other Occlusal Schemes in Removable Complete Dentures: A Systematic Review

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Abstract: Choosing an adequate occlusion is challenging during the construction of artificial dentures, and critical for patient satisfaction. However, there is no conclusive evidence to support which occlusal design is more appropriate. The aim of this systematic review was to evaluate canine-guided occlusion in comparison to other occlusal schemes in removable complete denture wearers. The review was conducted according to the Preferred Reported Items for Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis (PRISMA) guidelines. An extensive search was carried out on (PubMed (National Library of Medicine)), Scopus (Elsevier), Cochrane collaboration (Wiley), Science Direct (Elsevier) and Europe PMC (European Bioinformatics Institute). English and non-English studies were identified using keywords on canine-guided occlusion, denture occlusion, dental occlusion and artificial occlusal schemes. Out of 1759 articles searched, 18 were selected based on the inclusion criteria. The included studies were interpreted for the descriptive analysis for the calculation of occlusal schemes, occlusion assessment parameters, the outcome of the occlusal schemes and types of removable prosthesis used. The systematic analysis of occlusal schemes revealed that canine-guided occlusion is viable compared with other occlusal designs in terms of patient satisfaction, mastication, retention, esthetics, phonetics, oral-health-related quality of life and muscle activity. The type of occlusal scheme influences the complete denture patient's' masticatory efficiency, satisfaction, retention, phonetics and esthetics. Nevertheless, physical, physiological, mechanical and psychological factors play a vital role in the success of removable complete dentures. The canine-guided occlusal scheme is preferred because of its simplicity, less time consumption, good masticatory performance, ease of fabrication and modification into bilateral balanced occlusion if required. Further studies are required to reduce the controversies related to jaw relations, gnathology and occlusal schemes in complete dentures.

Keywords: prosthetic dentistry; denture occlusion; bilateral balanced occlusion; canine-guided occlusion; prosthodontics; complete denture

1. Introduction

Removable complete denture (CD) occlusal schemes have a varied perception in terms of satisfaction and oral-health-related quality of life in patients [1]. The three pillars for

the success of removable dentures are retention, stability and support, which directly affect the function, phonetics and aesthetic of patients. The factors are equally associated with restorations in both arches but complicated in the mandibular arch. Problems are associated with artificial dentures of both conventional and implant-supported categories with continuous denture use [2]. However, the use of tissue-friendly techniques and materials can improve the patient satisfaction level and biocompatibility [3]. Occlusion is an integral component of complete denture biomechanics. Satisfactory occlusal scheme prescription is a supporting factor to a better removable complete denture outcome in patients. It is evident that adjusting the occlusion clinically and in laboratory increases patients' acceptance with time [4].

Numerous occlusal schemes for removable complete dentures are in practice, including bilateral balanced occlusion (BBO), lingualized occlusion (LO), buccal occlusion (BO), monoplane occlusion (MO), group function/unilateral balanced (GF) and canine-guided occlusion (CGO). Occlusal schemes are diversified and continuously changing over time, hence today's restorative dentists are in a state of uncertainty as to which occlusal schemes can be satisfactorily incorporated in dentures [5]. Occlusal schemes are primarily selected on the basis of the amount of ridge resorption in the upper or lower dental arches and the state of the stomatognathic system. In addition, certain systemic conditions are associated with specific occlusal schemes. For example, MO is particularly used in muscle disorders [6], while LO is believed to serve better in resorbed ridges compared to BBO. BO is associated with improved chewing ability and patient preference for a variety of foods. BBO is associated with better stability, retention and support of removable complete dentures [7]. There are studies reporting the limitations of LO and BBO due to the lack of patient satisfaction particularly in removable dentures [8], which creates room for further investigation to rule out the possibility of other occlusal schemes. The use of removable complete dentures will not reduce in the future, hence researchers must focus on a reliable occlusal scheme that has maximum outcome in terms of quality patient service [9]. CGO is considered less problematic in terms of occlusal interferences, esthetics, occlusal surface contacts in denture teeth and satisfaction levels with simple occlusal adjustments [10]. In this review, we performed a comprehensive search of clinical trials emphasizing properties of the CGO scheme and comparing them with the characteristics of LO, BBO and MO and question whether CGO is ideal for successful removable complete denture treatment or not. The analysis of oral-health-related quality of life (OHRQoL), muscle activity, aesthetics, chewing ability, retention and stability were considered as the treatment outcome.

2. Materials and Methods

2.1. Research Question

This systematic review was conducted according to the Preferred Reported Items for Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis (PRISMA) guidelines. The focused question of "Is canine-guided occlusion a reliable occlusal scheme for the arrangement of complete denture teeth when compared to relevant published artificial occlusal schemes?" was constructed utilizing the Participants Intervention Control and Outcomes (PICO) strategy [11].

2.2. Search Strategy and Eligibility Criteria

An electronic literature search was conducted using various databases (PubMed (National Library of Medicine)), Scopus (Elsevier), Cochrane collaboration (Wiley), Science Direct (Elsevier) and Europe PMC (European Bioinformatics Institute) using various combinations of keywords (canine-guided occlusion, denture occlusion, dental occlusion, balanced occlusion, lingualized occlusion, monoplane occlusion). Clinical trials published (on or before 31 May 2020) were included without any language and publication date restrictions. The following inclusion criteria were applied: human studies with at least five participants, focus on CGO, removable/implant-retained complete dentures, evaluation of participants' satisfaction level, OHRQoL, retention, stability, chewing ability, muscle activity and esthetics, as presented in (Figure 1).

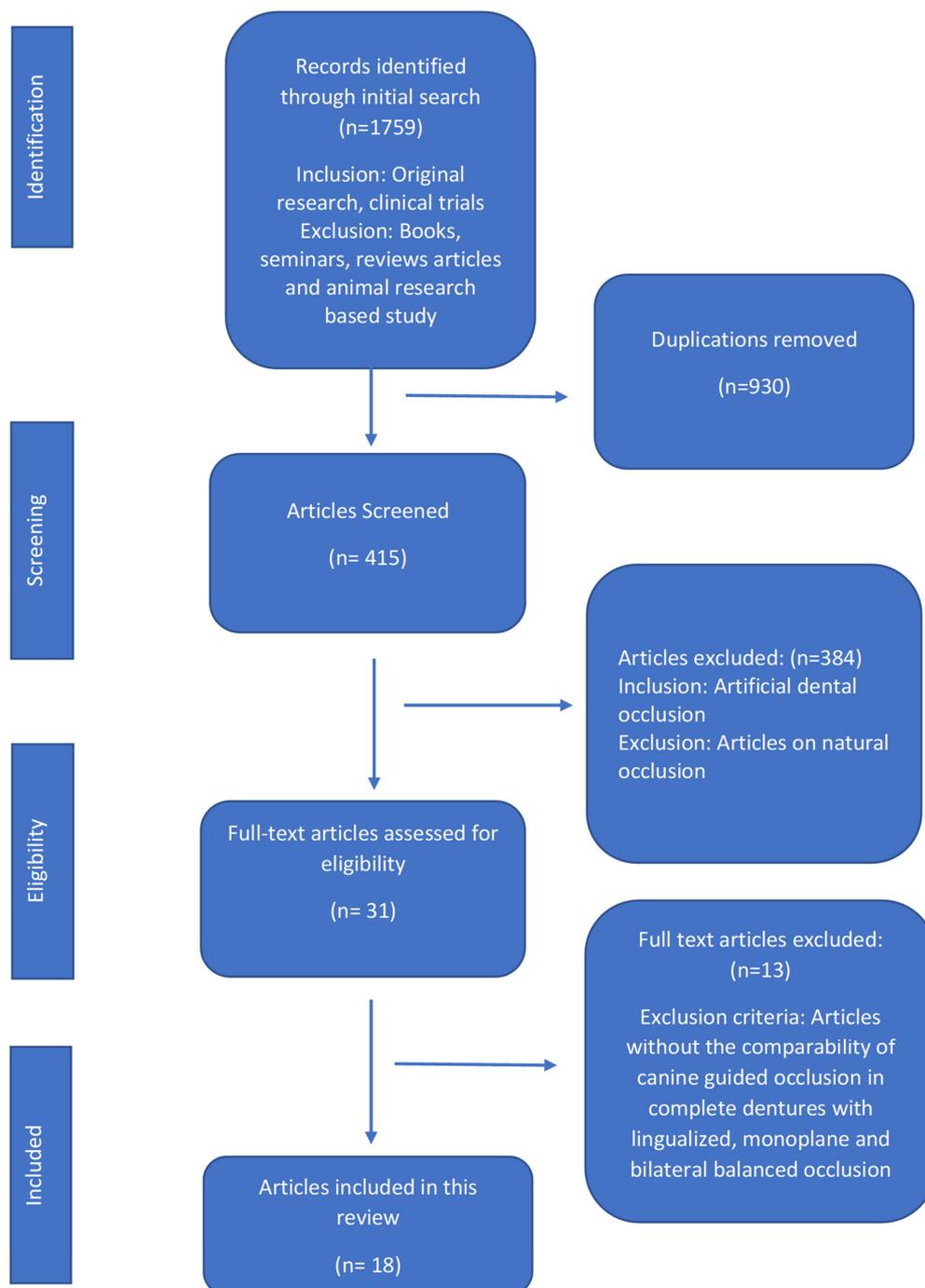


Figure 1. Flow diagram of selected articles and literature search as per the Preferred Reported Items for Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis (PRISMA) guidelines.

Two investigators (N.A. and M.S.Z.) screened the eligible articles against the inclusion criteria and performed a self-dependent eligibility appraisal.

The search was extended by including articles from the reference list to explore further relevant studies. Any disagreement was discussed and resolved by a consensus. The data were collected from every article according to the following specifications: author identification, study design, number of participants, type of prosthesis used, occlusal schemes opted, occlusal assessment method, i.e., patient satisfaction, function or mastication, phonetics, retention, esthetics, muscle activity and OHRQoL, follow-up period and outcome of the study, as described in (Table 1). The extracted data was entered in SPSS version 25 for statistical analysis. The descriptive analysis (frequency and percentage calculation) of

occlusal schemes, occlusion assessment parameters, outcome of the occlusal schemes and types of removable prosthesis used in included studies were performed and interpreted.

2.3. Quality Assessment of the Included Articles

A quality assessment of the included articles was carried out according to the standards described in the Cochrane Handbook for Systematic Reviews of Interventions (version 5.1.0) [12] and on the basis of parameters, i.e., patient chosen randomly, blinding, withdrawal/dropout mentioned or not, statistics applied, sample size estimation, inclusion/exclusion criteria, measurement of occlusal performance and method of error assessment (Table 2). Both investigators screened the included clinical trials, and any confusion was solved by consultation with a third reviewer. The Newcastle–Ottawa quality assessment scale (NOS) for randomized controlled trials [13] was used for further analysis of the included articles (Table 3).

Table 1. Characteristics of included studies.

Study	Study Design and Participants	Prosthesis	Occlusion	Assessment Method	Follow-Up Period	Conclusions
Pero et al. [9]	Crossover, 30	Complete dentures	CGO BBO	Occlusal force Mastication	4 weeks	CGO is a viable alternative to BBO in complete dentures
Brandt et al. [10]	Crossover, 40	Complete dentures	CGO BBO	Esthetics, retention Phonetics, mastication	12 weeks	CGO can be a comfortable alternative to BBO in complete dentures
Schierz et al. [1]	Randomized single-blind crossover trial, 19	Complete dentures	CGO BBO	OHRQoL	12 weeks	CGO and BBO are similar in terms of OHRQoL
Peroz et al. [14]	Randomized control trial, 22	Complete dentures	CGO BBO	Esthetics, retention Mastication, phonetic	12 weeks	CGO can be used successfully in complete denture treatment. CGO showed better esthetics, chewing and lower denture retention, while BBO had a limited role in the studied parameters but showed better retention in the upper denture
Farias et al. [15]	Double-blinded controlled crossover clinical trial, 24	Complete denture	CGO BBO	Mastication, phonetics, esthetics Retention, patient satisfaction, comfort	12 weeks and 24 weeks	CGO is preferred, easier and faster. BBO does not improve masticatory efficiency in complete denture wearers
Abdelhamid et al. [16]	Crossover, 12	Implant-retained lower overdenture and an upper conventional complete denture	CGO BBO	Electromyography of the masseter muscles Mastication	4 weeks	Both CGO and BBO can be used successfully in implant-retained mandibular denture as analyzed by electromyography
Heydecke et al. [7]	Randomized crossover, 20	Complete denture	CGO LO	Mastication	12 weeks	LO is not superior to CGO in chewing ability
Afzal et al. [17]	Randomized clinical trial, 60	Complete denture	CGO BBO	Esthetics Retention Mastication Phonetics	8 weeks	Occlusal schemes alone have a limited role in overall denture adaptation and satisfaction
Bolla et al. [18]	Clinical trial, 20	Complete dentures	CGO BBO	Patient satisfaction Mastication Esthetics Adaptability Retention Phonetics	12–16 weeks and yearly	BBO showed better initial adaptation in denture wearers. CGO can be used with success. Occlusion adaptation is not a crucial factor for patient adaptation
Faten et al. [19]	Crossover clinical trial, 20	Complete dentures	CGO BBO	Patient satisfaction and comfort Mastication	4 weeks	Both CGO and BBO improved the masticatory efficiency in complete denture wearers
Maxwell et al. [20]	Crossover clinical trial, 10	Complete dentures	BBO CGO	Electromyography of masseter and anterior temporal muscles Mastication	4 weeks	Masticatory ability is better when using canine-guided dentures
Elshoukoui et al. [6]	Crossover, 10	Complete dentures	CGO MO BBO	Maxillary acrylic denture base deformation was measured by the strain gauge method Mastication	8 weeks	MO is recommended for debilitated alveolar ridges

Table 1. Cont.

Study	Study Design and Participants	Prosthesis	Occlusion	Assessment Method	Follow-Up Period	Conclusions
Abdelhamid et al. [21]	Crossover design, 12	Implant-retained lower overdenture and an upper conventional complete denture	CGO BBO	Electromyography	4 weeks	CGO is similar to BBO in terms of masticatory muscle activity
Hofmann et al. [22]		Single maxillary complete denture	CGO BBO	Occlusal analysis mastication	NM	It appeared that canine-guided dentures led to considerable dislocations during tooth-guided lateral movements, BBO generated less disocclusion and denture movement
Compagnoni et al. [23]	Randomized control trials, 15	Complete denture	CGO BBO	Mastication	NM	CGO-prescribed dentures report lateral disocclusion but no functional impairment in patients
Miralles et al. [24]	Clinical trial, 9	Complete dentures	CGO BBO	Electromyography	12 weeks	CGO showed low muscle activity in function, and it is helpful in preventing parafunctional activity in edentulous patients
Paleari et al. [25]	Randomized clinical trial, 44	Complete dentures	CGO BBO	Denture satisfaction questionnaire and kinesiograph instrument	4 weeks	Occlusal scheme alone has no effect on denture satisfaction and kinesiographic analysis, except for the lower vertical intrusion of the maxillary denture with CGO
Rehmann et al. [26]	Clinical single-blind trial, 38	Complete dentures	CGO BBO	Patient satisfaction and comfort	2 weeks and 4 weeks	Patients preferred BBO in complete dentures when compared with CGO

OHRQoL: oral-health-related quality of life, CGO: canine-guided occlusion, BBO: bilateral balanced occlusion, MO: monoplane occlusion, LO: lingualized occlusion, NM: not mentioned.

Table 2. Methodological quality assessment results of the included studies.

Study	Patient Randomization	Blinding		Withdrawal/Dropout mentioned	Statistics Applied	Sample Size	Inclusion/Exclusion Criteria Clear	Occlusal Performance Measurement	Method of Error Assessment	Quality of Study
		Participants'	Assessor							
Pero et al. [9]	Yes	UC	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Low
Brandt et al. [10]	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Low
Schierz et al. [1]	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Low
Peroz et al. [14]	Yes	No	UC	UC	Yes	Yes	No	UC	Yes	M
Farias et al. [15]	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Low
Abdelhamid et al. [16]	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	M
Heydecke et al. [7]	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Low
Afzal et al. [17]	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Low
Bolla et al. [18]	No	UC	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	UC	M
Faten et al. [19]	Yes	UC	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Low
Maxwell et al. [20]	Yes	UC	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Low
Elshoukouki et al. [6]	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	M
Abdelhamid et al. [21]	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	M
Hofmann et al. [22]	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	M
Compagnoni et al. [23]	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	M
Miralles et al. [24]	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	High
Paleari et al. [25]	Yes	UC	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Low
Rehmann et al. [26]	Yes	Yes	No	UC	UC	Yes	No	UC	Yes	M

UC: unclear, M: moderate.

Table 3. Newcastle–Ottawa quality assessment of the included studies.

Author ID	Selection	Comparability	Exposure	Newcastle–Ottawa Quality (Total)
Pero et al. [9]	****	*	**	Seven
Brandt et al. [10]	****	*	***	Eight
Schierz et al. [1]	***	*	**	Six
Peroz et al. [14]	***	*	**	Six
Farias et al. [15]	****	*	***	Eight
Abdelhamid et al. [16]	***	*	**	Six
Heydecke et al. [7]	****	*	***	Eight
Afzal et al. [17]	***	*	***	Seven
Bolla et al. [18]	***	*	**	Six
Faten et al. [19]	***	*	**	Six
Maxwell et al. [20]	***	*	***	Seven
Elshoukouki et al. [6]	***	*	**	Six
Abdelhamid et al. [21]	***	*	**	Six
Hofmann et al. [22]	***	*	**	Six
Compagnoni et al. [23]	***	*	**	Six
Miralles et al. [24]	***	*	**	Six
Paleari et al. [25]	***	*	***	Seven
Rehmann et al. [26]	***	*	***	Seven

A study can be awarded a maximum of one star for each numbered item within the Selection and Exposure categories. A maximum of two stars can be given for Comparability. Each study can be awarded a total of 9 stars. A study was rated to have a low risk of bias if it received the maximum allowed number of 9 “stars” while moderate risk if it received 8,7 or 6 “stars” and high risk if it received 5 “stars” or less.

The analysis was based on three core quality parameters: case and group (selection, definition and representativeness), comparability (comparison of case and control groups, analysis and control of confounding variable) and exposure (outcome assessment), as well as the analysis of occlusal schemes in patients by different examiners, the evaluation of the study outcome related to different occlusal schemes clinically, the use of a universal assessment method for both control and case groups and a dropout rate of patients in the included studies. Each item scored 1 star if sufficiently reported, and each study scored from 1 to 8 stars.

3. Results

3.1. Search Results

In this review, there was a total of 1759 articles in the initial search. The articles were decreased to 930 irrelevant studies and then further decreased to 415 relevant studies and gradually to the final 18 articles [1,6,7,9,10,14–26] after the application of the set exclusion and inclusion criteria. The total number of articles that included CGO was eighteen [1,6,7,9,10,14–26], seventeen for BBO [1,6,9,10,14–26] and one each for LO [7] and MO [6]. The CGO scheme was compared in all 18 articles [1,6,7,9,10,14–28] based on function, retention, satisfaction, muscle activity, esthetics and OHRQoL with BO, LO and MO. Thirteen full-text articles [5,29–35] were excluded, including the review articles, articles reporting natural occlusion or artificial occlusion without canine guidance and articles in which fixed prosthodontic restorations were used as a treatment option (Figure 1).

3.2. Assessment of Various Occlusal Schemes from the Included Articles

The function or mastication as a parameter of suitability with CGO was compared in 13 (72.22%), 12 BBO (66.66%), 1 LO (5%) and 1 MO (5.55%) articles. Esthetics with CGO was compared in 7 (38.88%), 7 BBO (38.88%), 0 LO (0%) and 0 MO (0%) articles. Retention with CGO was analyzed in 5 (27.77%), 5 BBO (27.77%), 0 LO (0%) and 1 MO (5%) articles. Muscle activity with CGO was compared in 5 (27.77%), 5 BBO (27.77%), 0 LO (0%) and 0 MO (0%) articles. OHRQoL with CGO was analyzed in 1 (5.55%), 1 BBO (5.55%), 0 LO (0%) and 0 MO (0%) articles. Furthermore, phonetics with CGO was analyzed in 5 (27.77%),

5 BBO (27.77%), 0 LO (0%) and 0 MO (0%) articles. Patient satisfaction and comfort with CGO were compared in 5 (27.77%), 5 BBO (27.77%), 0 LO (0%) and 0 MO (0%) articles, as described in (Figure 2).

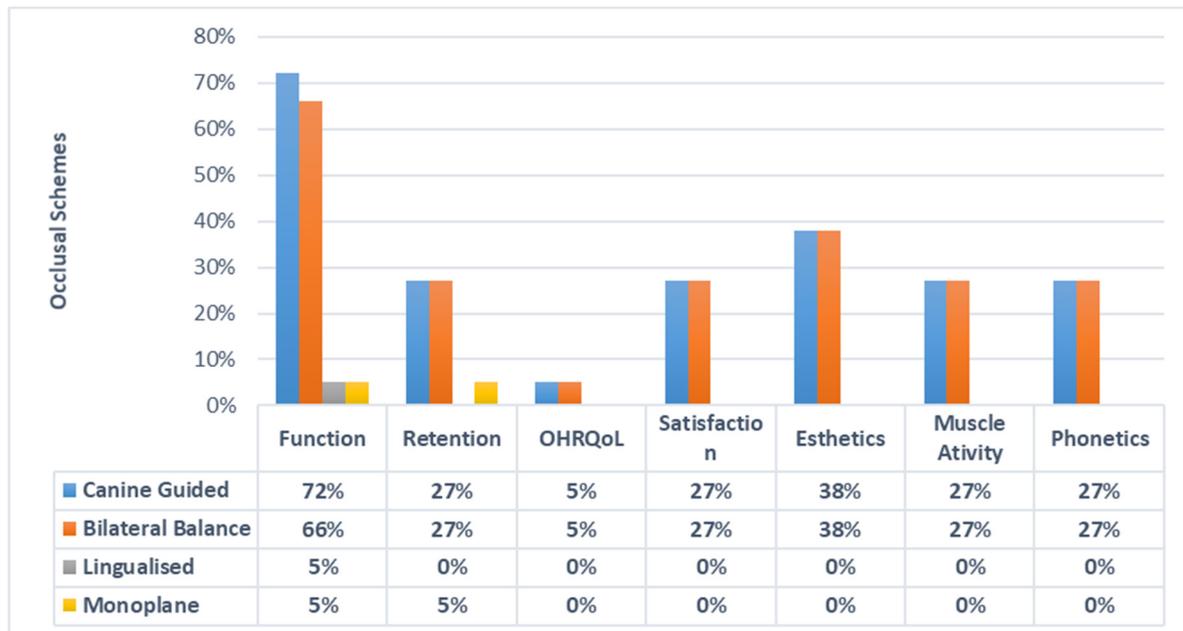


Figure 2. Assessment of different occlusal schemes with study outcomes.

Out of the 18 articles. The follow-up period up to 6 months was adopted in 16 (88.88%) CGO studies, 15 BBO (83.33%), 1 LO (5.55%) and 1 MO study (5.55%), while only 1, the article by Bola et al. [18], did a yearly follow-up. Removable complete dentures were used as a prosthesis to incorporate 16 CGO (88.88%), 15 BBO (83.33%), 1 LO (5.55%) and 1 MO (5.55%), as described in Table 4. Maxillary and mandibular complete dentures were used as a prosthesis in 15 articles [1,6,7,9,10,14,15,17–20,23–26], while a single complete maxillary denture was used in 1 article [22]. Moreover, implant-retained mandibular dentures as opposed to conventional maxillary dentures were used in two (11.11%) articles [16,21].

Table 4. Follow-up and type of prosthesis used over the different occlusal schemes.

Occlusal Schemes	Follow-Up Period	Conventional Denture	Implant-Retained Denture
Canine-guided occlusion	88.88%	88.88%	11.11%
Bilateral balanced occlusion	83.33%	83.33%	11.11%
Lingualized occlusion	5.55%	5.55%	0%
Monoplane occlusion	5.55%	5.55%	0%

3.3. Results of Quality Assessment

Out of the eighteen articles [1,6,7,9,10,14–26] analyzed, blinding was performed in five articles [1,7,10,15,26]. In fourteen articles [1,7,9,10,12–15,17,25,26], randomization was applied among the participants. The withdrawal/dropout rate was mentioned in six articles [1,9,10,15,20,25]. Suitable statistical tests were performed in three articles [14,24,26]. Subject criteria and sample size calculation were carried out in all the included articles [1,6,7,9,10,14–26]. Analysis of occlusal performance was performed in fifteen articles [1,6,7,9,10,15–25]. The method of error assessment was applied in 17 studies [1,6,7,9,10,14–17,19–26]. Moreover, eight articles were allocated a quality score of “medium” [6,14,16,18,21–23,26], and nine articles were labeled as “low” [1,7,9,10,15,17,19,20,25]. One article was assigned a quality score of “high” [24]. The results of the quality assessment are described in (Table 2). Additionally, the quality assess-

ment of selected studies on NOS [13] ranged from six to eight points. A mean score of six was achieved for the included studies. All “eighteen” articles [1,6,7,9,10,14–26] included in this review fall in the “moderate” bias category (Table 3).

3.4. General Outcomes of Included Studies

The outcomes of the studies (stability, function, esthetics, retention, muscle activity, phonetics, patient satisfaction and OHRQoL) varied drastically when compared with occlusal schemes. The outcomes of the included studies showed superior suitability with CGO among the denture wearers. CGO emerged as the preferred occlusal scheme in a total of eight articles [7,9,10,14,15,20,23,24], while four articles [6,18,22,26] suggested that other occlusal schemes are better. Four articles [1,16,19,21] predicted no difference between canine-guided occlusion and other occlusal schemes, while two articles [17,18] concluded that occlusal schemes alone have a limited role in overall patient satisfaction (Figure 3).

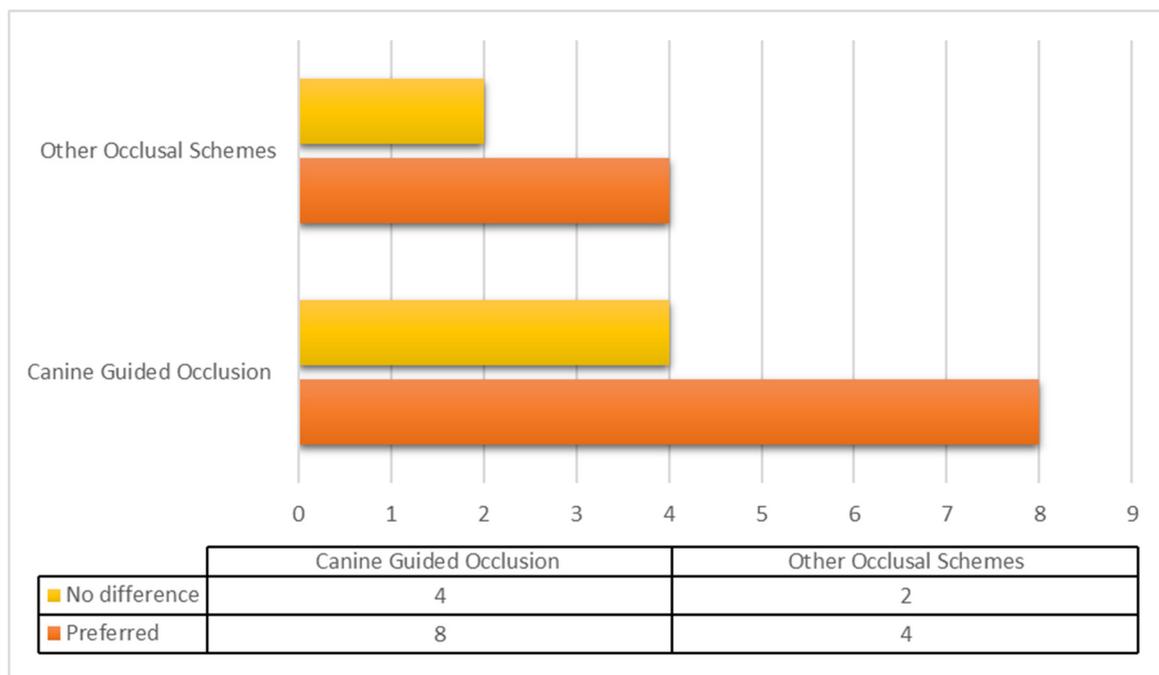


Figure 3. Distribution of suitable occlusal schemes from the included studies. Suitability of canine-guided occlusion versus other occlusal schemes (bilateral balanced occlusion, lingualized and monoplane occlusion) in terms of retention, stability, satisfaction, esthetics, oral-health-related quality of life and phonetics.

4. Discussion

The present systematic review compared various aspects of the canine-guided occlusion with other types of occlusal schemes in complete denture wearers. The selection of an adequate occlusal scheme in removable complete dentures is challenging [27,36]. Achieving all the objectives of complete denture making in edentulous patients involves the successful integration of patients’ functional needs and psychological acceptance [37]. Different occlusal schemes for the removable prostheses have been proposed by various researchers over the years [28,38]. However, to date, there is no conclusive evidence to support which occlusal scheme is appropriate for the construction of a successful and functional complete denture [39]. Numerous studies have been carried out in the past, which have evaluated and compared occlusal concepts based on various parameters [40]. The current systematic review analyzed various aspects of canine-guided occlusion and other artificial occlusal schemes in removable complete dentures.

When forces act on the body in such a way that no motion results, there is stability, balance and equilibrium [41]. From prosthodontic aspects, this is the main goal while

fabricating a complete denture, considering the forces that act on the denture teeth and the denture bases with their combined effect on the movement of the denture. A well-supported, retentive and stable denture base is desired [42]. BBO is one of the earliest occlusion concepts advocated for the construction of complete dentures and involves the continuing contacts of as many maxillary and mandibular artificial teeth as possible at the centric relation and all eccentric mandibular movements [43]. Proponents of this scheme claim that dentures fabricated with BBO are more stable, with multiple point contacts in all excursive movements, particularly for edentulous patients with compromised ridges and neuromuscular skills [36,43]. In contrast, with CGO, the posterior teeth disengage during all excursive movements of the mandible, with the canine teeth making a vertical and horizontal overlap [14]. In centric occlusion, both types of schemes have simultaneous occlusal contacts; however, they differ in occlusal contacts during excursive/eccentric movements [44,45]. The selection of the optimal or appropriate occlusal scheme for edentulous patients has economical and clinical significance [36,43,45]. The construction of the occlusal scheme with BBO is more complex and time-consuming compared to the canine-guided scheme [1]. It is logical to use technical procedures that produce comparable and acceptable clinical results with minimum time and effort, rather than opting for more complicated occlusal schemes such as BBO. Although BBO has been considered successful and functional for complete dentures for many years, the scientific evidence to support it is still inconclusive [15].

According to the present review, CGO is another reliable occlusal scheme for the arrangement of complete denture teeth compared to the relevant published artificial occlusal schemes. The articles searched in this review quote that CGO is the most preferable over other occlusal schemes because of its simplicity and ease of fabrication [46]. However, it must be emphasized that the construction of a satisfactory complete set of dentures depends on technical, biological and physiological interactions between the patient and dentist [47]. Besides the clinical skills of the dentist and technician, the factors associated with the patients are also critical and equally important for optimum function and satisfaction with complete dentures [48]. Various factors, such as adhesion/cohesion, saliva viscosity/flow, shape, quality, quantity and resorption of alveolar ridges, the skeletal relationship of the upper and lower arches, condition of the oral mucosa, vestibular depth, neuromuscular coordination of the patient and tongue hypertrophy, play a vital role on the outcome of the complete denture treatment [48,49].

The current research states that CGO is a reliable occlusal scheme for the arrangement of denture teeth. BBO, LO and MO may be used directly to establish occlusal schemes consistent with previous studies [2,6]. This was an unexpected finding as it contradicts the widely held belief that artificial occlusion in denture teeth is ideal with BBO for denture function and stability. In our study, there was a significant difference between different occlusal schemes in terms of stability, function, muscle activity, esthetics, retention and OHRQoL suggesting that patient satisfaction varies in relation to various occlusal schemes. Meanwhile, the CGO occlusal scheme was different in function only when compared with BBO; however, the latter is not preferred due to the complexity of construction and time-consuming adjustments visits. Comparing the results of all occlusal schemes, BBO, LO, MO did not seem to be suitable methods for denture occlusion. In contrast, the studies carried out by Rehmann et al. [26] and Elshoukouki et al. [6] still favor BBO and MO in denture wearers.

Anterior teeth group function or the canine-guided occlusal scheme have been reported for superior functional efficiency for chewing/mastication. According to the literature review, differences between the various occlusal schemes were observed in terms of patient satisfaction in relation to various factors such as stability, function, muscle activity, esthetics, retention and OHRQoL [50]. In the current review, CGO was preferred in comparison to other artificial occlusal schemes in terms of function and stability, as reported by several researchers [9,14,18]. Some researchers have named these "lateral occlusal guidance studies," where canine- and premolar-guided occlusion are preferred over BBO [51]. CGO

was preferred for esthetics, phonetics, masticatory function and retention in a crossover study with 50 subjects (10 dropouts), where all subjects preferred CGO, but a greater adjustment time was involved [52–54]. Another important point and advantage of the CGO scheme in complete denture wearers could be its ease of modification by the alteration of canines [15]. For patients with compromised ridges, poor neuromuscular coordination and a reduced ability for adaptation to CGO, with little modification, the occlusal scheme can be changed to BBO [15,55]. Nevertheless, it is worth attempting to establish CGO first over BBO because of its superior functional performance.

The present review had some limitations such as the heterogeneity of the included studies present in all the occlusal schemes. The inclusion and exclusion criteria of the patients, as well as the scale established for the measurement/classification of patient satisfaction, varied, which may have affected the results of the studies. Most of the values reported were based on the patients' individual responses. Therefore, the results could be interpreted with caution, and a direct extrapolation of this review to the clinical performance of various occlusal schemes should be carefully made. The authors suggest additional randomized controlled clinical trial studies for various complete denture occlusal schemes should be carried out to explore their effects on denture retention and the transfer of occlusal stresses. The influence of local factors should be considered, such as mucosal resiliency, residual ridge quality and quantity, salivary parameters, skeletal ridge relationships and general factors such as patient age, systemic health, parafunctional activities and psychological factors, on occlusal concept choice. This study will help future clinicians in restoring teeth with satisfactory occlusion. A suitable occlusal scheme would be a critical factor for the fabrication of a successful complete denture. However, there is no conclusive evidence to support which occlusal design is more appropriate for fabricating a successful complete denture.

5. Conclusions

The type of occlusal scheme influences the complete denture patients' masticatory efficiency, satisfaction, retention, phonetics, and esthetics. All schemes, if wisely used, can bring out good clinical results. Nevertheless, physical, physiological, mechanical and psychological factors play a vital role in the success of complete dentures. A canine-guided occlusal scheme is preferred because of its simplicity, less time consumption, good masticatory performance, ease of fabrication and modification into bilateral balanced occlusion if required. Further studies are required to reduce the controversies related to jaw relation, gnathology and occlusal schemes in complete dentures.

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