

“Replacement of an extracted tooth should not be delayed:

Dr. Nagarsekar

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“ It is very important to replace a tooth once it is extracted, delay in doing so may lead to advanced complications that arise due to its absence ” cautioned Dr.Sapna Nagarsekar – Consultant Dentist, Manipal Hospitals Goa during her talk on Tooth Replacement, part of the regular Friday Health Talks at The International Centre Goa (ICG) recently.

It is ideal to preserve normal dentition wherein all 32 teeth are intact, but in cases of severe dental caries or cavities or advanced periodontal disease, extraction or removal of teeth is unavoidable. Due to the absence of a tooth, other teeth tend to grow improperly developing spaces and gaps leading to food lodgment in odd places initiating further complications such as tooth decay, discomfort and bad odour. Due to imbalance in the dentition, the normal functioning of other teeth is grossly affected leading to improper chewing function, thereby causing strain on the muscles and joints of the jaw.

Dr. Nagarsekar elaborated on a variety of treatment options for replacement of natural teeth. “Dental bridges and dentures are commonly used for tooth replacement” she explained. Dentures are usually removable and made of hard acrylic substance. It is not advisable to wear them throughout the day as they are not comfortable, but nowadays there are flexible dentures available made of soft and light materials making it comfortable to wear. “Although costly, dental implants are the best options as they are more convenient compared to dentures”, she added. These are directly anchored into the jaw of the patient and can be done on the dental chair under local anaesthesia and they function as normal as natural teeth. She concluded her talk by advising to consult a dentist following a tooth extraction for the most suitable option for replacement to avoid onset of any further complications.

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