

Advances In Prosthodontics™

New Findings & Best Practices for Cosmetic & Restorative Dentistry

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Do You Have a Patient With Severe Wear?



Here's the story of a patient who was referred from another dental professional...

If you have a patient with several missing, broken or severely worn teeth — they may be a candidate for oral rehabilitation with the assistance of an advanced Prosthodontist.

Read more on the next page...

◆ Do you want another opinion on a complex case? Or to meet and share ideas?

There are many ways we can help each other by working together on complex cases and by sharing knowledge and experience. With your reputation for quality dental care, and our experience with restorative treatments, we can work together on advanced cases and both benefit! If you'd like to meet to discuss a difficult procedure, or talk on the phone about how we can help each other, please call or email our office with specific days and times when you are available to talk or meet.

Prosthodontic Publication

Want to see recent issues?

Stay informed on new findings and best practices for implant and restorative dentistry. See more examples of complex cases online at:

AdvancedProsthodontist.com / Scharrington

CASE SUMMARY: Full Mouth Rehabilitation

by Joon Han, DDS, MS, FACP, *Board Certified Prosthodontist*

Before

Patient “Michael” was referred to me by another dental professional in the area who stated, “I would not choose to do this treatment due to patient’s aggressive bruxism.” Michael did have severe bruxism but his prognosis was excellent to good.

His treatment plan included:

- Extraction of all Third Molars.
- Maxillary and Mandibular Crowns (Zirconia).

As a prosthodontist, I have experience with complex cases, and can plan multi-stage treatments that coordinate with a patient’s general dentist and other dental specialists. I also am comfortable treating patients with high esthetic demands. Michael felt comfortable knowing that I have experience with complicated dental issues, and have developed protocols to ensure the highest esthetic and functional outcome for the restorations.

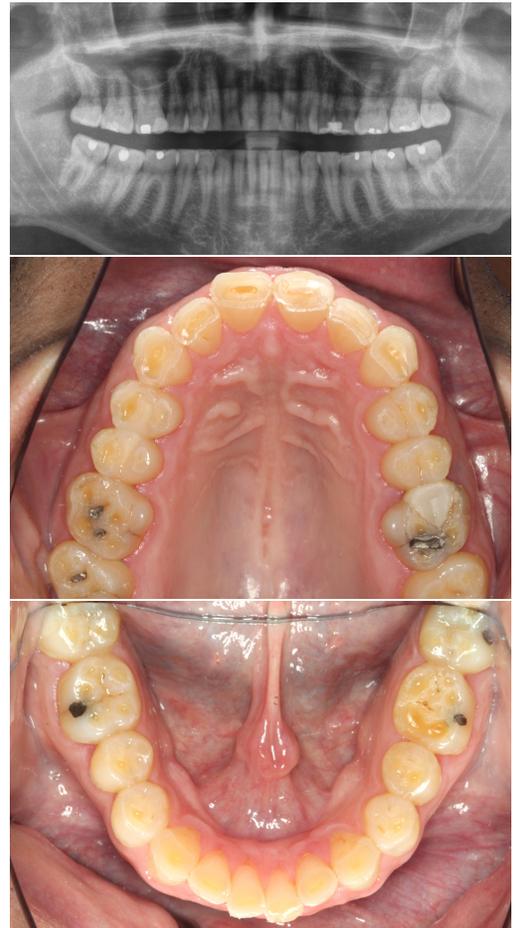
Michael’s treatment sequence:

- Upper and lower alginate impressions and proper upper and lower diagnostic casts prior to treatment planning.
- Referral to Oral Surgeon for extractions of teeth #'s 1,16,17,32.
- Maxillary — crowns on all upper dentition.
- Provisional for three months, then fabrication of definitive crowns.
- Mandibular — crowns on all lower dentition.
- Provisional for three months, then fabrication of definitive crowns.
- Nightguard for life, to protect the restorations.

What made this case challenging was the following:

This is a classic case where you need to understand esthetics, occlusion, material choice, long-term prognosis, and also how to sequence the treatment based on the patient’s budget. Initially Michael had a limited budget. He knew this would not be inexpensive so we had to start with upper first to boost his confidence and restore his smile. Once we finished with the upper, we completed the lower dentition in sequence using properly fabricated provisional crowns.

Knowing he was a habitual bruxer, material choice was also important. Any layered porcelain, ceramic or Lithium Disilicate would be destroyed by his occlusion. We are fortunate that we can offer full contour Monolithic Zirconia crowns today. If this treatment had been done 15+ years ago, he would have fractured every porcelain we made, whether or not we fabricated a nightguard. Monolithic Zirconia not only provides esthetics but also strength. Occlusal analysis is very critical for this case. As shown in his pano, very flat condyle inclination and creation of any cusp or any incisal guidance creates stress on maxillary anterior teeth and possibly fracture in the long-term. From my experience, sudden changes in the vertical dimension of occlusion (VDO) do not work, so I remade provisional crowns several times to let him get used to a new VDO. **More on next page about this...**



◆ **Do you have a patient in Michael’s situation?
Or another complex case?**

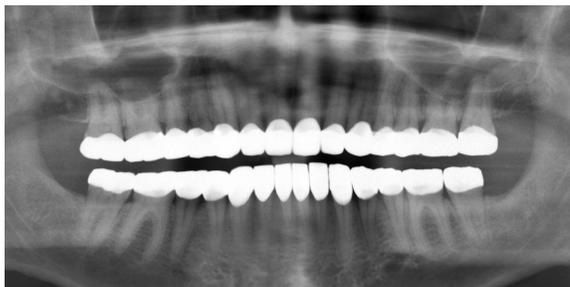
Final pano and smile next page...

If you have a question about a case and want another opinion, give our office a call.
Or, if there’s a case that you want to work together on, please fill out and send in the enclosed referral form.

We will take great care of your patient and keep you informed. Dental professionals refer to us as **The Complex Case Specialists™** because we perform complex cases every day.

Continued from previous page...

After



Some clinicians opt to provide the patient with increased VDO splint, but I use provisionals. How do I know how much vertical I need to increase? Average tooth size plus freeway space. If the existing tooth has 3-4mm, I need 3mm for tooth and 3mm for free way space. Since we were doing both upper and lower, we increased vertical by almost 9mm!!! Also choosing an experienced lab is crucial, because it's important that the lab technician understand occlusion and proper crown design. If you work with inexperienced technicians, you won't get the proper results.

Final result



The most important lesson with this type of treatment is PREVENTION.

If we recognize any patient that has severe bruxism or potential bruxism, early prevention is the key. Insist to the patient that he or she needs to wear a nightguard to further protect dentition. I show this case on a regular basis to demonstrate the consequence of not wearing a nightguard.

But if you see a patient where it's too late and they have already worn down their dentition, my Prosthodontist office can help you with the treatment. I say that because chair time for this type of patient is two to three times longer than your average patient — you may not this type of long treatment, but working on complex cases is the focus of my specialty practice (as you can see with the Before and After on page 1).

If you have a patient with severe wear, I would be happy to partner with you. In order for this procedure to be successful you must have the right armamentarium: facebow, semi-adjustable articulator, and most importantly the right lab technician. Also patience! There are many days that you have to deal with the patient's frustration, remake of provisionals, etc. I can help you provide the patient with the best treatment and avoid this type of complex case draining your limited time.

We give all referred patients a warranty and refer them back to the general dentist for regular hygiene unless advised otherwise by the referring office, depending on the patient and treatment. If you have questions about this example, please email me at: AskDrHan@Gmail.com

◆ **Have A Laugh:** Dental Office Parking...

We hope we made you smile during your busy day! We take the care of patients referred to us very seriously, including knowing how to educate them so they feel comfortable. We specialize in the treatment of complex cases, usually involving several procedures over months of care.

The next time you see a challenging case, please feel free to call us and we can discuss treatment planning or we can help you with any part of the treatment. Our goal is to be a resource for your office by helping manage difficult and time-consuming procedures, restoring the function and esthetics that the patient desires, then referring them back to your office for their ongoing care.



ABOUT OUR SPECIALTY PRACTICE



*Dr. Joon Han
DDS, MS, FACP
Board Certified
Prosthodontist*

Drs. Han & Malik have prosthodontic training and private practice experience that make treatments of complex cases more successful, including the following examples:

- Patients with severely worn/damaged teeth, missing all teeth, or with ill-fitting dentures can receive a full arch of natural-looking teeth to restore function & esthetics.
- Patients with congenital defects, a chronic condition, or traumatic injury can receive oral prostheses, which may be a combination of dental implants, crowns, bridges, or veneers.
- Patients with difficult anterior cases in the esthetic zone can receive single or multiple dental implants to replace missing teeth, or veneers or crowns to improve the appearance of their smile.



*Dr. Aneeqa Malik
DDS, MS
Prosthodontist*

Personal Message To Fellow Dental Practitioners:

“As the referring dentist, you know your patient’s mouth and have key insight into your patient’s needs. We want to work with you to provide your patients with the best possible treatment outcomes. We will treat your patient in a manner that reflects well on you and strengthen your relationship with your patient. We are here to make you look good! When your patient’s care is completed, they are referred back to your office for their ongoing dental care. We are grateful for your collegueship and trust with your patients!”

Prostho Pledge

When your patient is referred:

- ✓ We will only treat what’s been referred.
- ✓ We will send you updates.
- ✓ We will be part of your team, not take over your patients.

◆ Why other dental professionals work with a Prosthodontist

Prosthodontists are specialists in implant, esthetic, and reconstructive dentistry.

1. **You have a patient requiring treatment outside your typical scope of practice.**
Examples include patients with vertical dimension discrepancies, severely resorbed ridges, inadequate interarch space, severe bruxism, traumatic tooth loss, or congenital abnormalities.
2. **You have a patient with complex needs that may drain your time.**
If your patient may require treatment from several specialists, Prosthodontists can help because they are trained to appropriately stage and manage complex treatment plans.
3. **You have a demanding patient who wants perfect esthetics.**
Examples include patients with a high smile line or needing a single tooth replacement in the esthetic zone. A Prosthodontist is trained in selecting the best solutions for high-demand patients.
4. **You have a question and want to discuss a case with a colleague to ease your mind.**
A Prosthodontist can be an excellent resource for you to ask questions because they are trained in many types of complicated treatments. For example, you may want to consult a Prosthodontist for complex implant-supported restorations. They can work with you or complete the treatment for you to achieve the best in both function and esthetics.