

# Advances In Prosthodontics™

New Findings & Best Practices for Cosmetic & Restorative Dentistry

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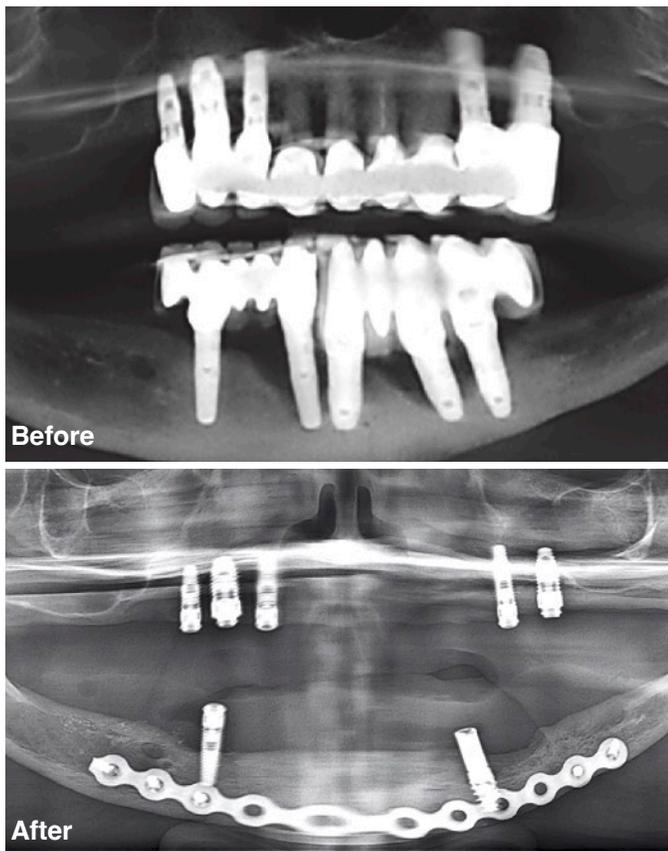
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## Do You Have a Patient With Failing Restorations?



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 — or failing restorations — 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 talk 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 my experience with restorative treatments, we can work together on advanced cases and both benefit! If you'd like to discuss a treatment, or talk on the phone about how we can help each other, please call or email my office with specific days and times when you're available.

### Prosthodontic Publication

#### Want to see recent issues?

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

**AdvancedProsthodontist.com / Han**

## CASE SUMMARY: What do you do when your patient hits rock bottom?

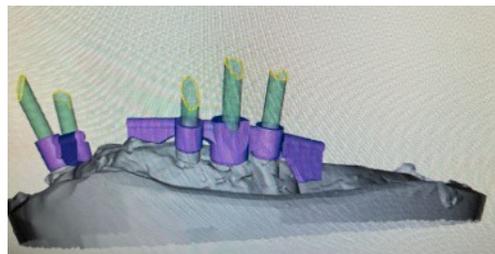
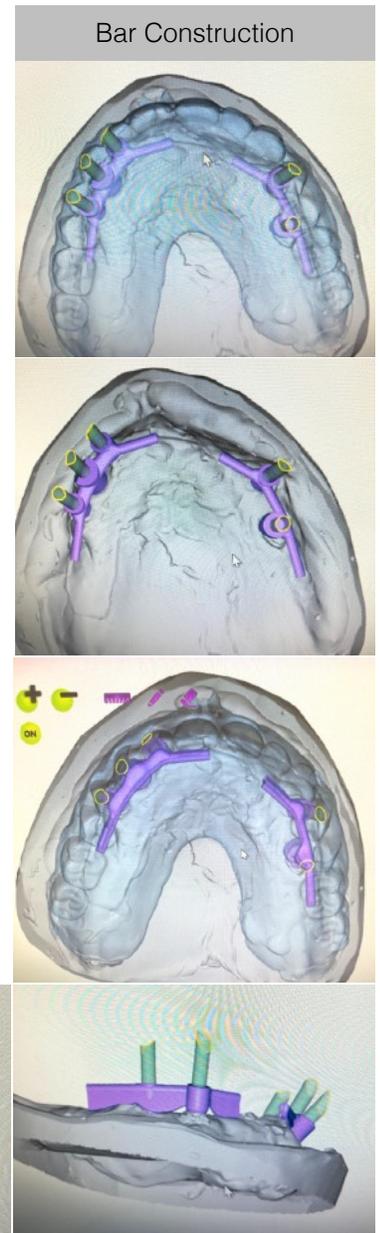
by Joon Han, DDS, MS, FACP, Board Certified Prosthodontist

Patient “Patricia” was referred to me by a local oral surgeon to evaluate a possible All-on-4 dental implant treatment. Patricia already had a long history of dental treatment, including multiple implants and crowns, and she was getting tired of on-going treatment. Previous panoramic radiographs showed bone loss on multiple sites, and that the mandible was at very high risk of fracturing due to severe bone loss. Patient liability became an issue and she was sent to a local university for complete care along with removal of implants and possible mandibular stabilization. Three years passed and Patricia came back to our office to see if I could make any improvement to her condition. A new panoramic was taken, and this became one of the most challenging cases I have ever had to perform.

Patricia’s chief complaint was that she had to use adhesives to secure both her upper and lower dentures. Even though they were supported by dental implants, none of her attachments were engaging, they were loose, and new attachments also became worn and loose after a month. Patricia was informed that redoing implant supported overdentures with Hader Bars was probably the best solution. Unfortunately, I couldn’t do any more with a mandibular overdenture besides redoing it with proper border molding and impressions to fit the best we could. When we start a case like Patricia’s, there is nothing different from how we do basic dentures. Initial impressions and proper custom trays are essential. Also, I was able to reach her Periodontist for information about her remaining implants.

**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 have experience repairing or replacing dental restorations whether they are complete or partial dentures, dental implants, crowns, or bridges.

**Patricia’s treatment plan included:** (1) Implant impression copings were splinted and a final impression was taken and reverified. (2) A wax rim was fabricated first for proper VDO, midline, and facial profile. (3) Teeth were set prior to bar design and later approved for fabrication. (4) Upper bars were separated due to lack of path of insertion. Implants were too divergent and bars were placed palatally in order to have adequate spaces for denture teeth. (5) Once the bars were fabricated (milled bars in this case); teeth were set again and tried on prior to final delivery of the dentures.



Final Prostheses + Challenges...

### ◆ Do you have a patient in Patricia’s situation? Or another complex case?

If you have a question about a case and want another opinion, give my 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.

My office and I will take great care of your patient and keep you informed. Other dentists refer to me as **The Complex Case Specialist™** because I perform complex cases every day.

**What made this case challenging was the following:**

Patricia had had a long journey of dental treatments with many different providers. Outcomes might be different for each patient, but reassuring her that what I can do will improve her quality of life was the most challenging part of this case. First, Patricia had to understand that all her implants were compromised and a long-term prognosis was guarded. Certain conditions like the implants in the mandible could not be improved even with additional surgeries. In addition, the Hader Bar fabrication is technically very difficult. It requires meticulous impression techniques and re-verification along with a technician's expertise for these types of overdentures. Sometimes this kind of treatment takes multiple steps, so making the patient understand that it takes longer than usual is also an important part of the treatment communication.



**Important Takeaway:** More Dentists are relying on implant supported overdentures with locators or new attachments in the market. Some locator attachments have 30–40-degree forgiveness, but converting multiple implants to locators are not the best choice in my opinion due to lack of path of insertion. If you are thinking of doing something similar, you really need to communicate with your lab technician to have a successful outcome. Also, when you have patients like Patricia, be honest with what you can and cannot accomplish. Patients will appreciate your honesty. And if you start the treatment, managing it with proper hygiene and frequent evaluation are required for long-term success.

Final



**If you have a patient with a complicated dental problem** and you would like assistance in helping them, please contact my specialty office. It will be my pleasure to assist you with any aspect of the diagnosing, planning, or treatment execution processes for complex cases.

When patients are referred, I refer them back to their general dentist for regular hygiene, unless advised otherwise by the referring office, depending on the patient and treatment. I will be in contact with your office every step of the way. If you have questions about my prosthodontic protocols or want to discuss a case, please call my office or email me at: [AskDrHan@gmail.com](mailto:AskDrHan@gmail.com)

◆ **How can a Prosthodontist assist you and your dental team?**

I 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 me and we can discuss treatment planning or help you with any part of the treatment. My goal is to be a resource for your office by helping manage difficult and time-consuming procedures, restoring the function and esthetics that each patient desires, then referring them back to your office for their ongoing care.

# Dr. Joon Han

DDS, MS, FACP, Prosthodontist ♦ The Complex Case Specialist™



*Dr. Joon Han works with other dental professionals to restore the smiles and confidence of patients facing a difficult diagnosis.*

## About Dr. Han's specialization:

As a Prosthodontist, Dr. Han specializes in fixed and removable prosthodontics, dental implants, and all phases of esthetic dentistry. Dr. Han is Board Certified by the American Board of Prosthodontics, and his training along with private practice experience make treatments of complex cases more successful, including:

- 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.

In addition, Scharrington Dental & Prosthodontics is equipped with an **in-house dental lab**, allowing for individual customization, precision, and higher patient satisfaction.

### 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. I want to work with you to provide your patients with the best possible treatment outcomes. I will treat your patient in a manner that will reflect well on you and strengthen your relationship with your patient. I am 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. I am grateful for your collegiality and trust with your patients!"

### Protho Pledge

When your patient is referred:

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

## ◆ Why other dental professionals work with a Board Certified Prosthodontist

Board Certified 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, Board Certified 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. Board Certified Prosthodontists are 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.**  
Board Certified Prosthodontists 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 Board Certified 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.