

Advances In Prosthodontics™

New Findings & Best Practices for Cosmetic & Restorative Dentistry

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Do You Have A Patient With Severe Wear, Failing Restorations, or Both?



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 a 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 my experience with restorative treatments, we can work together on advanced cases and both benefit!

If you'd like to meet 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 to talk or meet.

CASE SUMMARY: Full Mouth Reconstruction

by Dr. Jack DeGrado, Prosthodontist

Patient “Tom” was referred to me because he kept fracturing his teeth and had difficulty chewing. His bite had been adjusted several times prior to coming to our office.

Tom presented with the following diagnosis:

- Collapsed occlusion.
- Fillings that kept coming out.
- Fractured ceramic crowns.
- Advanced wear of teeth.
- Lack of restorative space.
- Low FMA skeletal type.
- High risk for mechanical breakdown.

As a prosthodontist, I have experience planning complex treatments and coordinating with a patient’s general dentist and other specialists.

The treatment sequence for Tom included the following:

- Full diagnostic wax-up.
- Maxillary provisional restorations from tooth 2-15, at increased vertical dimension of occlusion.
- Provisional crowns 19-22, 27-31, composite provisionals 22-27 to restore proper length of teeth.
- Re-evaluation was done to see how well Tom was adapting to new vertical dimension of occlusion.
- Crown lengthening of teeth 7-8 was also done.
- After an adequate healing period, a PFM bridge was fabricated in 3 sections.
- Metal occlusion was done on teeth 6-11 and posterior metal centric stops.
- Mandibular dentition was restored with:
 - individual emax crowns on 20, 21, 22, 27, 28, 29 —
 - full contour zirconium crowns on 19, 30, 31 — and
 - emax veneers on 23-26 (see photos on next page).



Continued on next page...

Final photos on next page...

◆ Do you have a patient in Tom’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. Dental professionals refer to me as **The Complex Case Specialist™** because I perform complex cases every day.

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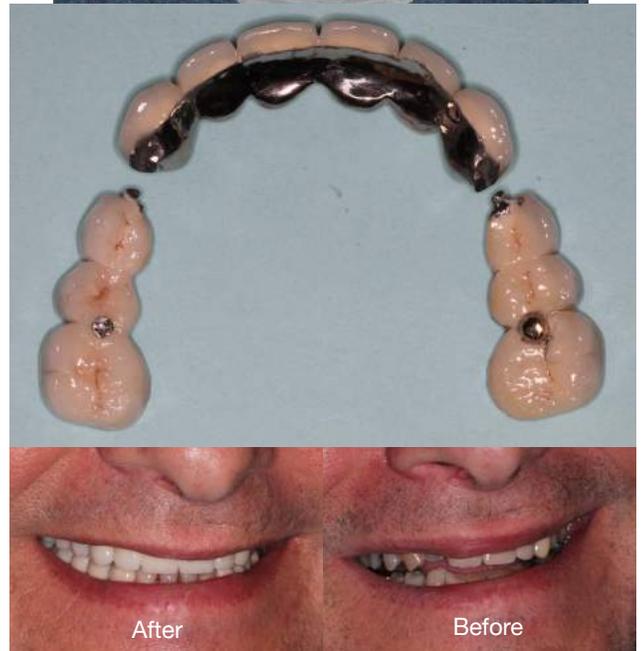
The following items made this case very challenging:

1. Any time you have a patient who needs to have their entire occlusion restored, it's a big challenge. Proper diagnostic techniques have to be used to determine if vertical dimension of occlusion can be increased, prior to initiating restorative treatment.
2. This restorative treatment was also extremely difficult because of Tom's lack of interocclusal space. The anterior teeth were very short and we needed to increase clinical crown length for retention.

This treatment worked out very well because Tom was compliant. He told me: "My bite has never felt better." He now has 6 year follow up and the occlusion is very stable. Also, there have not been any porcelain fractures. He felt that it was "Definitely worth it" to do the comprehensive treatment.

I 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.

I feel even with the new ceramic materials, there are still applications for porcelain fused to metal restorations, and this case is a great example. If you have comments or questions about how I treated Tom from this example, please email me at: info@StamfordDentalGroup.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 I can 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 the patient desires, then referring them back to your office for their ongoing care.

Dr. Jack DeGrado

DDS, Prosthodontist ♦ The Complex Case Specialist™



Dr. Jack DeGrado is a Prosthodontist and works with dental professionals from all areas of Fairfield County

About Stamford Dental Group

Stamford Dental Group is Dr. DeGrado's practice where he specializes in fixed and removable prosthodontics, implant prosthodontics, and all phases of esthetic dentistry. Dr. DeGrado's prosthodontic training and experience make treatments of complex cases more successful, including the following examples:

- Patients with ill-fitting dentures, severely worn or damaged teeth can receive a single dental implant or a full arch of natural-looking teeth in a day.
- Patients who have suffered from traumatic injury, congenitally missing teeth, or a chronic condition can receive oral prostheses, which may be a combination of dental implants, crowns, bridges, or veneers.
- Patients with severe neglect of their oral health can receive a full mouth rehabilitation to restore function & esthetics.
- Patients who are older and may have complicated medical histories can receive extra time and attention in an office that specializes in dental care for seniors.

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 collegueship and trust with 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 of your typical scope of practice.

Examples include patients with vertical dimension discrepancies, severely resorbed ridges, inadequate interarch space, TMJ, 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 or refer to a Prosthodontist for complex implant-supported restorations. A Prosthodontist can work with you or complete the treatment for you to achieve the best in both function and esthetics.