

# Advances In Prosthodontics™

New Findings & Best Practices for Cosmetic & Restorative Dentistry

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## Do You Have a Patient Like This?



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

If you have a patient with several missing, broken or worn teeth, they may be a candidate for a full mouth reconstruction with the assistance of a Prosthodontist.

Read more on the next page...

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

There are many ways we can help each other – by sharing knowledge, experience, and working together on complex cases. I'd like to invite you to lunch, dinner, or an office meeting to talk more about a difficult procedure or simply to share ideas. With your reputation for quality dental care, and my experience with implant and restorative treatments, we can work together on advanced cases and both benefit! I'm looking forward to talking with you on the phone or meeting in person.

**Please have your staff call or email my front-office with specific days and times when you are available for a meeting...**

## CASE STUDY: Oral Rehabilitation of Atrophic Maxilla using Zygomatic Implants

Patient Jane (not her real name) was referred to me by another dental professional in the area who was busy with their patient load, and Jane's needs were more complex than they wanted to take on.

I met with Jane at her initial consultation, then had a follow-up visit with full X-rays.

Jane had severely atrophic maxilla and Classic Combination Syndrome. About 10 years ago, she lost her maxillary teeth after a traumatic car accident. She was wearing dentures but recently had dental implants placed for a maxillary overdenture. When I met her, one implant had already failed, another one was stuck in her denture! (image on right...) She had been going through various surgical treatments for 1.5 years with little success.



My diagnosis was for immediate extractions, implant placement, and immediate load of both maxilla and mandible in order to correct her occlusal plane and restore functional occlusion. After explaining the treatment plan, Jane decided to move forward. Her treatment plan included working with me to manage the case and an oral surgeon to place her new teeth. The total treatment time was 9 months, but her teeth were fixed the same day as surgery.



Jane enjoyed having fixed teeth for the first time in over 10 years and told my office, "I wish I had done this sooner. I suffered for so many years and my dentist tried hard but didn't seem to know how to handle my situation. I just love my smile. Now, if only my medical insurance would pay for it!"

**I gave her my full warranty (that I give to all referred patients) and sent her back to the referring doctor's office for long-term care.**



### Do you have a patient in Jane'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 the patient and keep you informed. Dental professionals refer to me as **The Complex Case Specialist™** because I perform complex cases every day.



Quickly Get the Latest Research On Procedures & Materials For Better Outcomes...

## **Conventional Impression Technique compared to Digital Impression Technique – Which Is Better?**

A clinical trial was recently reported in the *Journal of Prosthodontics* to compare conventional or digital impression techniques.

Forty-two patients were randomly allocated into two groups to determine if either technique had a significant impact on procedure times, patient discomfort, and outcome.

Findings from this trial include:

- Conventional impression technique took 6 minutes longer, on average, than digital.
- Conventional impressions were reported to cause nearly 7 times more discomfort for patients than digital, using a visual analog scale (VAS).
- The digital impression technique showed better results for occlusal contacts.
- Digital impressions were concluded to be more efficient, convenient, and effective than conventional methods.

### **Notes about these findings:**

Sometimes it can be challenging to make 3D printed models that are stable and that can reproduce the scans. However, advances in scanning technology are improving in both speed and accuracy.

While CAD-CAM casts are usually more accurate than the 3D printed casts, the technology will improve significantly in the near future.



### **Have A Laugh: Denture Dessert**

I hope I made you smile during your busy day!

I take the care of patients referred to me very seriously, including knowing how to educate them so they feel comfortable.

It's my goal to help every patient understand even the most difficult procedures, so they can regain the function and esthetics they desire.



# Dr. Maggie T. Chao

DMD, Prosthodontist ♦ The Complex Case Specialist™



## About Pleasanton Prosthodontics:

Pleasanton Prosthodontics is a specialty practice limited to fixed and removable prostheses, dental implants, and all phases of esthetic dentistry.

## What patients say about Dr. Chao:

“I have been in this business a long time (I’m a dental hygienist) and I know how difficult it is to find a doctor you can trust. Dr. Chao is the kindest, caring, gentle and experienced doctor I trust! I was having issues with my dental implant crowns placed by another doctor. I went to Dr. Chao to have the work completed correctly. She delivered beautiful crowns in a timely and anxiety free appointment.” – Karla S.

“I took my mom to appointment with Dr. Chao earlier this week. Both my mom and I were beyond impressed with Dr. Chao patience and kindness. She took all the time needed to explain her findings. You could imagine at 83 this is a stressful process but my mom was more than comfortable. Dr. Chao is very gentle with her hands, which made my mom feel safe.” – Francee C.

“The most caring dentist I’ve met. I had very poor fitting dentures. After going to her, I knew she was the expert I was looking for. She uses the latest technology and sure enough, she made a perfect fit.” – Ernie C.

“Dr. Chao is competent and caring. She explains procedures in detail and helps you understand the pros and cons of your options.” – Joan B.

Learn more at: [PleasantonPros.com](http://PleasantonPros.com)

## ◆ Why other dental professionals work with a Prosthodontist

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

### 1. You have a procedure that is not your specialty.

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 complex case that may drain your time.

If your case may require treatment from several specialists, Prosthodontists can help because they are trained to appropriately stage and manage complex treatment plans.

### 3. You may have a demanding patient who wants perfect esthetics.

Examples include patients with a high smile line or needing a single central incisor. A Prosthodontist is trained in the selection of the best techniques to find a solution for high-demand patients.

### 4. You may 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 a Prosthodontist for complex implant-supported restorations. A Prosthodontist can work with you or complete the treatment for you to restore the best in both function and esthetics.