

Advances In Prosthodontics™

New Findings & Best Practices for Cosmetic & Restorative Dentistry

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Do You Have Patients with Failing Dentition or Restorations?



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

If you have a patient with failing / failed dentition or failing restorations, they may be a candidate for a full mouth 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 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: 99 year old patient with Broken Partial

by Dr. Maggie Chao, Prosthodontist

Patient “Doug” was 99 years old when he was referred to my office because his partial denture broke. I met with Doug at his initial consultation and it was evident the break occurred due to insufficient restorative space for the back teeth.

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.



Doug’s treatment plan included utilizing an acrylic resin flange for retention and a full-contour waxup, we were able to increase his vertical dimension of occlusion, improve his esthetics, and restore function in a matter of a few visits. The partial is designed so that if future teeth should be lost, acrylic can be added to convert this into a complete maxillary denture. As our patients age, it would be wise for us to think about the future and help them maximize the utility of their prostheses. His family was grateful because they know that advancing age brings many unknown expenses and the fact that we have helped them plan for the future gave them reassurance.



I gave Doug my full warranty when I sent him back to the referring office for long-term care. 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. If you have questions about my prosthodontic protocols, please email me at: drchao@pleasantonpros.com

◆ Do you have a patient in Doug’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.

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

Dentures are a Reservoir for Respiratory Pathogens

Lindsay E. O'Donnell BSc, Karen Smith BSc, PhD, Craig Williams MB, MD, Chris J. Nile BSc, PhD, David F. Lappin BSc, PhD, David Bradshaw BSc, PhD, Margaret Lambert BSc, MSc, Douglas P. Robertson PhD, BDS (Hons), MFDS, FHEA, Jeremy Bagg PhD, FDS, FRCPath, FFPH, Victoria Hannah BSc, BDS, PhD and Gordon Ramage BSc, PhD, FRCPath1. Journal of Prosthodontics, 10 AUG 2015, DOI: 10.1111/jopr.12342

Purpose

Recent studies have established a relationship between dental plaque and pulmonary infection, particularly in elderly individuals. Given that approximately one in five adults in the UK currently wears a denture [about one in six adults in the US], there remains a gap in our understanding of the direct implications of denture plaque on systemic health. The aim of this study was to undertake a comprehensive evaluation of putative respiratory pathogens residing upon dentures using a targeted quantitative molecular approach.

Materials and Methods

One hundred and thirty patients' dentures were sonicated to remove denture plaque biofilm from the surface. DNA was extracted from the samples and was assessed for the presence of respiratory pathogens by quantitative polymerase chain reaction (qPCR). Ct values were then used to approximate the number of corresponding colony forming equivalents (CFEs) based on standard curves.

Results

Of the dentures, 64.6% were colonized by known respiratory pathogens. Six species were identified: *Streptococcus aureus*, *Streptococcus pneumoniae*, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, *Haemophilus influenzae* B, *Streptococcus pyogenes*, and *Moraxella catarrhalis*. *P. aeruginosa* was the most abundant species followed by *S. pneumoniae* and *S. aureus* in terms of average CFE and overall proportion of denture plaque. Of the participants, 37% suffered from denture stomatitis; however, there were no significant differences in the prevalence of respiratory pathogens on dentures between healthy and inflamed mouths.

Conclusions

Our findings indicate that dentures can act as a reservoir for potential respiratory pathogens in the oral cavity, thus increasing the theoretical risk of developing aspiration pneumonia. Implementation of routine denture hygiene practices could help to reduce the risk of respiratory infection among the elderly population.

Thoughts

This may not be a surprise to you, but the clinical research supports the need for regular hygiene and can be a good talking point with patients. Now we need to determine by research the best way to disinfect the dentures with the least damage to the dentures. But certainly, just brushing and using cleaning agents will decrease these pathogens. Depending on the patient, it may also be a reason to consider dental implants.

◆ Have A Laugh: Lord Voldemort from the "Harry Potter" movie...

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. 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. Maggie T. Chao

DMD, Prosthodontist ♦ The Complex Case Specialist™

Let's change patients' lives by working together using this communication tool with complex treatments!



About Pleasanton Prosthodontics:

Pleasanton Prosthodontics is a specialty practice limited to fixed and removable prostheses, dental implants, and all phases of esthetic dentistry. Dr. Chao's extensive prosthodontic training and private practice 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... 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 reconstruction to restore function & esthetics.

PleasantonPros.com/doctor-referral

There are 2 ways to use this section of Dr. Chao's website to make treatment communication easier, help patients, and do less administrative work: 1) **Online Referral Form** is fast and secure, and 2) **Collaborator** (example to right) allows sharing of documents, radiographs, CT scans, and messages... organized and available to all colleagues working on a case... and HIPAA compliant with no software to install - simply create a password and log on anytime you want to view / update info. **It's free to use!**

This collaborator tool makes inter-office communication easier

Patient	Treatment	Referred by	Assigned Doctor	Status	Modified	
...	No treatment specified	...	Maggie Chao	Surgery	2/28/2018	View
...	BR04 - prosthetic case	Accepted	2/27/2018	View
...	BR04	Surgery	2/27/2018	View
...	No treatment specified	...	Maggie Chao	New	2/27/2018	View
...	LAB	Maggie Chao	...	Post-Op	2/26/2018	View
...	Complete denture upper	Maggie Chao	...	Scheduled	2/24/2018	View

Hide Case Status

1 New 2 Accepted 3 Scheduled 4 Consult Complete 5 Treatment Accepted 6 Surgery 7 Post Op

REFERRAL FORM DOCTOR TALK PATIENT TALK ATTACHMENTS RECENT ACTIVITY

◆ Why other dental professionals work with a Certified 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 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.