

Advances In Prosthodontics™

New Findings & Best Practices for Cosmetic & Restorative Dentistry

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Do You Have a Patient With Missing Laterals?



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 a genetic disorder — 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 / Chao

CASE SUMMARY: Congenitally Missing Laterals

by Dr. Maggie Chao, Prosthodontist

Patient “John” was referred to me when he was 33 years old and wanted a solution for his congenitally missing lateral incisors. **As a prosthodontist,** I have experience planning multi-stage treatments and can coordinate with a patient’s general dentist and other dental specialists. Due to root proximity, I explained to John that he was not an ideal candidate for implants. Treatment alternatives were discussed including orthodontics, fixed and removable restorations, and John opted for Maryland bridges.

There is an interesting story behind the name Maryland bridges. It is not named after the state of Maryland, nor was it really invented anywhere in the state of Maryland. Even though evidence shows that this technique has been used by dentists in the late 19th century (see the journal article on next page). The “modern version” of Maryland bridges was most likely invented by Dr. Stewart R Halbauer, a Glendale, Ohio dentist. Later the University of Maryland popularized this technique, and hence, came to be known as the Maryland bridge. (Source:

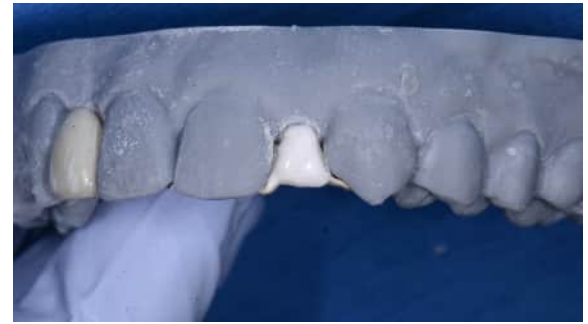
<https://www.dental-treatment-guide.com/dental-bridges/maryland-bridges>)

Note about Material Selection: Traditionally, Maryland bridges have been made of either cast metal or porcelain. Today, we have another option:

Pekkton! Pekkton® ivory is a high-performance material (based on PEKK), composed of OXPEKK® IG1 (Implantable Grade with highest purity), and Titanium Dioxide for optimization of tint and mechanical properties. It can be used in a variety of ways and veneered with composite, bonded pressed ceramics, or acrylic. (Source: <https://www.cmsa.ch/index.php?eID=dumpFile&t=f&f=13139&token=e062ea55ae474299226ad6ba58a570f4c8db77af>)

The photos in this publication illustrate a Pekkton framework (to right and next page). I veneered with Renamel composite (Cosmedent), and luted with Estelite B1 warmed composite. I’ve made 6 of these so far and they are holding up well. While polishing this Maryland bridge, one of the wings broke the day before delivery. Having an in-house mill allowed me to make a new one in 20 minutes. Not a fun experience but this is the power of CAD-CAM.

I gave John my full warranty when I sent him back to the referring office for regular hygiene visits, noting that he come to our office for an annual exam and maintenance. 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:

drchao@pleasantonpros.com

◆ Do you have a patient in John’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...

The Origin of the Maryland Bridge

James L. Gutmann; J Hist Dent. Fall 2019;67(2):110

The dental world was introduced to a revolutionary and esthetically pleasing adhesive-retained fixed partial denture for the replacement of anterior missing teeth in the early 1980s.^{1,2}

Patient comfort was enhanced along with minimal pulpal trauma to adjacent teeth that may occur with the extensive cutting of tooth structure with the use of full coverage crowns.

Proffered by faculty from the University of Maryland, this tooth replacement was ultimately known as the Maryland Bridge, and it has been used extensively to the benefit of many patients. However, as with anything in history, especially the history of dentistry, the evolution of these types of improvements often comes from information buried in the vaults of the numerous dental publications that arose in the 1700-1800s, vaults that are only too often never opened to the riches within.



Maryland bridge treatment with Pekkton framework by **Maggie T. Chao, DMD, Prosthodontist**
(illustrations only, not part of this article)

So it was also with this prosthetic replacement as significant evidence exists in 1887 that this prostheses was used routinely by restorative dentists.³ Dr. Allison R. Lawshee from Trenton, NJ, USA provided the dental world with this replacement prosthesis almost 100 years prior to the what we know today at the Maryland Bridge. While not possessing the properties of contemporary etching and adhesion, minimal tooth damage was highlighted and sound principles of cementation were advocated. Historical evidence and enlightenment for today's generation at its finest.

References:

1. Livaditis GJ, Thompson VP. **The Maryland bridge technique.** TIC 1982;41(11):7-10.
2. Livaditis GJ. **Etched metal resin-bonded restorations: principles in retainer design.** Int J Periodontic Restorative Dent 1983;3(4):34-47.
3. Lawshe AR. **A system of removable bridge substitution, using sound teeth, cavities and roots as abutments.** Dent Items Int 1887;19:661-667.

◆ Have A Laugh: Denture Graffiti or Fine Art?

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™



Dr. Maggie Chao works with dental professionals near the Pleasanton and Walnut Creek areas to restore the smiles and confidence of patients facing a difficult diagnosis.

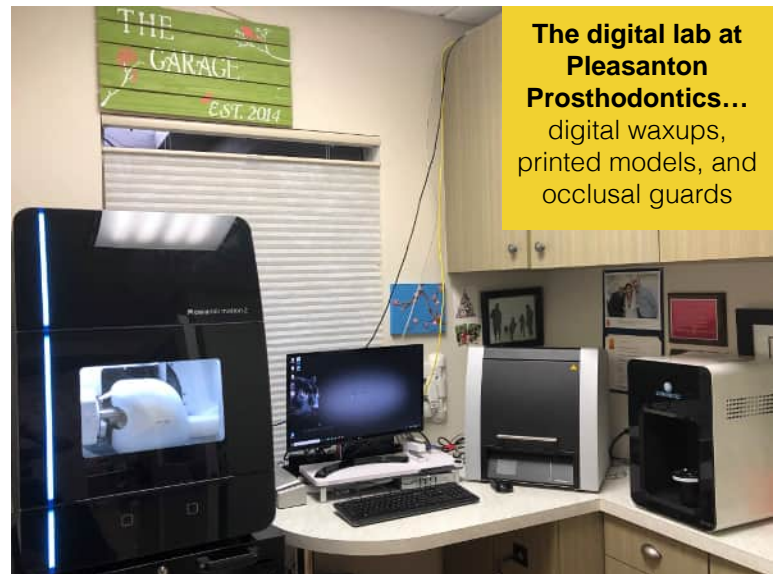
About Pleasanton Prosthodontics:

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** that allows sharing of documents, radiographs, CT scans, and messages... organized and available to all colleagues working on a case... also 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!



The digital lab at Pleasanton Prosthodontics...
digital waxups,
printed models, and
occlusal guards

◆ 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.