

# Advances In Prosthodontics™

New Findings & Best Practices for Cosmetic & Restorative Dentistry

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## Do You Have a Patient With a Failing Full-Arch Restoration?



Figure 1

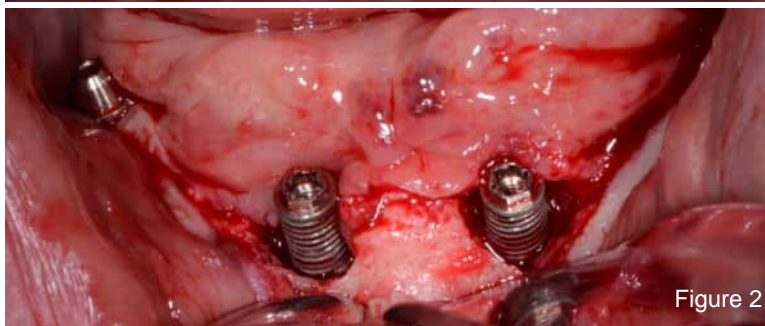


Figure 2

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

Patient "George" was referred to me by his general dentist. I managed the case from when his teeth were removed, implants placed, and delivered a LAO4 prosthesis. With any complex restoration there needs to be monitoring and follow-up. George's treatment was a good example of this because his implants at #'s 23, 26 failed. In this newsletter I'll show how we were able to salvage a LAO4 prosthesis. The two failing implants were removed, and 3 additional implants were placed by an East Bay Oral Surgeon.

If you have a patient with several missing, broken or worn teeth, they may be a candidate for oral reconstruction 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: Mandibular Full-Arch Retrofit

by Dr. Maggie Chao, Prosthodontist with assistance from an East Bay Oral Surgeon

This is the story of George, and how we were able to save his failing AO4 (Figures 1 - 2, on page 1, and Figure 3 to right).

From a surgical perspective — we were lucky that there was adequate bone for additional implants.

From a restorative perspective — no additional treatment was needed. His old prosthesis was converted and saved.



Figure 3

**George's treatment sequence including the following:**

- 3 RODO abutments are torqued to 35 Ncm and denture is modified for pickup of 3 new copings (Figures 4 - 6, below).



Figure 4

Figure 5



Figure 6

- Intra oral pick up with no occlusal holes: 3 Tall Ti Copings are trimmed and coated with acrylic (Figures 7 - 9, below).



Figure 7

Figure 8



Figure 9

- Teflon Tape & Acrylic used for pickup (Figures 10 - 12, below).



Figure 10

Figure 11

Figure 12

Continued on next page...

### Do you have a patient in George'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.



## Continued from previous page...

- Unlocked Smilelocs are placed over the RODO abutments (Figure 13).
- Teflon tape is wrapped around the unlocked Smilelocs (Figure 14).
- Trimmed, acrylic coated copings are held in place with retention from Teflon tape (Figure 15).
- Denture is inserted and the intaglio is adjusted as needed to create room for new copings (Figure 16).
- Then, new copings are picked up in the denture with acrylic (Figure 17).
- New copings are picked up in the denture next to old copings which will be buried with acrylic (Figure 18).
- Intaglio of denture is adapted to new copings, burying old copings (Figure 19).
- Lingual holes are prepared in the lab (Figure 20).
- Locked Smilelocs are placed onto the abutments (Figure 21).
- Retrofitted denture is secured to the Smilelocs (Figure 22).
- Post -Op PANO taken showing the additional implants (Figure 23).

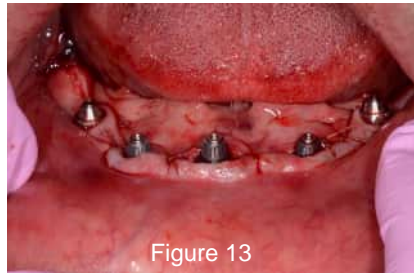


Figure 13



Figure 14



Figure 15



Figure 16



Figure 17



Figure 18

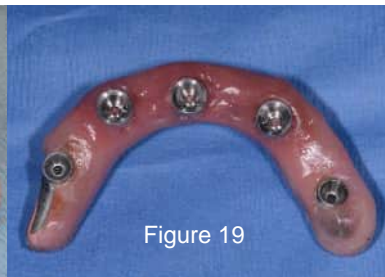


Figure 19



Figure 20



Figure 21



Figure 22



Figure 23

## Final Result: Mandibular Reconstruction...

I am looking forward to doing more restorations with RODO abutments because there will be less prosthesis failures (no large chimneys to weaken the acrylic).

I am working on digital workflows to make easier, better and stronger provisionals that may minimize denture conversions altogether.

If you have comments or questions, please email me at:

[drchao@pleasantonpros.com](mailto:drchao@pleasantonpros.com)

# Dr. Maggie T. Chao

DMD, Prosthodontist ♦ The Complex Case Specialist™



*Dr. Maggie Chao works with dental professionals near Pleasanton and the Walnut Creek areas.*

## 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 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.



## 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 complex treatment outside of your typical 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.