

Advances In Prosthodontics™

New Findings & Best Practices for Cosmetic & Restorative Dentistry

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

SPECIAL REPORT:

Immediate Molar
Implant Therapy

Changes and
Keys to Making
This Treatment
Effective
page 2

Takeaway
page 2

Case Example
pages 2-3

COMPLEX CASES:

Dr. Joe Meng &
Dr. Graham Meng
Both Have Specialized
Training & Skill To Help
with Patients in
These Situations
page 4

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SPECIAL REPORT

Immediate Molar Implant Therapy: Predictable, Efficient, and Tissue-Preserving



The single-tooth dental implant remains the standard of care for replacing missing teeth. With more than 40 years of data showing excellent success and predictability, it's still the most reliable and functional option we can offer our patients.

The first molar — especially in the mandibular — is the tooth most frequently lost. While it's not in the esthetic zone, it's one of the two primary teeth for mastication, so replacing it is always recommended.

However, from both a surgical and restorative perspective, the molar presents challenges. Multi-rooted anatomy leaves a large void after extraction, and the maxillary sinus or inferior alveolar nerve often limits available bone.

Traditionally, we'd extract, graft, wait 3-6 months, place the implant, wait again 3-4 months for osseointegration, and then restore. That often means up to 12 months of treatment time, multiple surgeries, and total costs in the \$6,000–\$7,000 range. Now there is a better way.

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.

If you'd like to discuss a difficult procedure, or talk on the phone about how we can help each other, please call or email our office with specific days and times when you are available.

More Examples

Stay informed on new findings and best practices for cosmetic and restorative dentistry.

See more examples of complex cases online:



AdvancedProsthodontist.com
/ Meng

Immediate Molar Implant Therapy

by Graham Meng, DDS, MS, FACP, Board Certified Prosthodontist — **Meng Dentistry**

Changes with Molar Implant Therapy

Advances in surgical technique, drilling protocols, and implant design have transformed how we manage these sites. In our practice, nearly every molar extraction can now be followed by immediate implant placement. The implant heals for 10 weeks, impressions are taken, and the crown is delivered 2-4 weeks later. Treatment time has dropped from a year to only 3 months, in most cases. This reduces costs by 20-40%, since there's only one surgical procedure. In addition, the patient only has one recovery period and one round of antibiotics.

Keys To Making This Treatment Effective

Managing a molar site requires careful planning before, during, and after surgery:

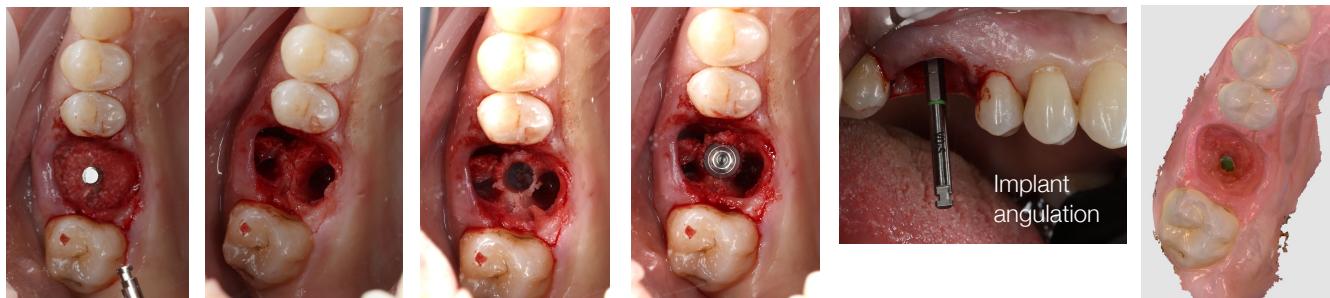
- **Pre- and post-operative disinfection and antibiotics** are critical.
- **Osseodensification** allows for bone preservation and compaction rather than removal.
- **Implant selection** matters: a tapered body, wider coronal platform (5-8 mm), deeper-cutting threads, and a tapered apex create excellent primary stability even in sites once considered unsuitable for immediate placement.

Takeaway

Immediate Molar Implant Therapy reduces treatment time, surgical morbidity, and cost — while preserving hard and soft tissue contours and delivering a crown that closely replicates the original tooth in both form and function. For the patient, it means fewer appointments and faster results. For dentists, it means a simpler workflow, predictable outcomes, and happier patients.

Case Example

A 57-year-old female was referred after an endodontist identified a distal crack extending below the osseous crest on a previously restored mandibular molar. After discussing options, she elected for implant therapy. The tooth was sectioned and atraumatically removed. Adequate interseptal bone allowed for immediate site preparation using osseodensification, followed by a transcrestal sinus lift of approximately 3 mm. The implant was placed with excellent primary stability. **Continued on the next page...**



Bone grafting and tooth position

Bone after removal

Drilling with sinus lift

Implant in place

Tissue Scan

Final Result

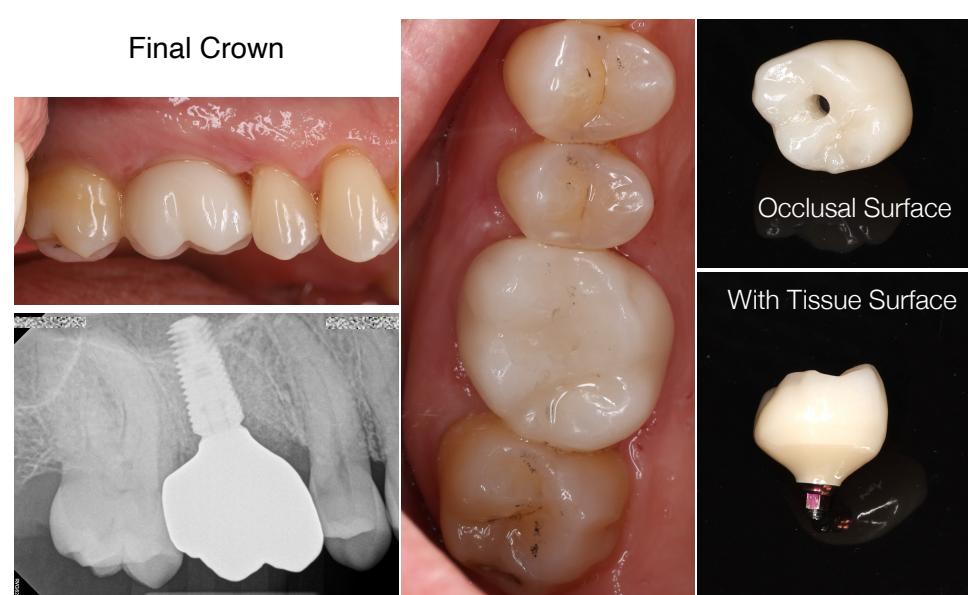
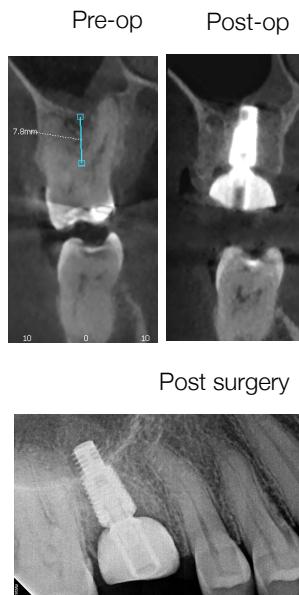
◆ Do you have a patient missing teeth? Or another complex case?

If you have a question about a case and want another opinion, give our office a call. Or, if there's a case that you want to work together on, please see the enclosed referral info sheet to learn more about what you and your patient can expect when referring to our specialty office. We will take great care of your patient and keep you informed. Dental professionals refer to us as **The Complex Case Specialists™** because we perform complex cases every day.

Continued from previous page

A **custom healing abutment** was fabricated following the principles of Linkevicius (*Zero Bone Loss Concepts*) and Gómez-Meda (*Esthetic Biological Contour*). This “socket-shielding” abutment supported the buccal and lingual contours and papillae, eliminating the need for sutures and resulting in minimal postoperative discomfort.

After 10 weeks, restorative records were taken. Because tissue contours had been maintained, the lab could fabricate a crown with an ideal emergence profile — not the bulky, food-trapping morphology we often see after delayed placement. The final zirconia crown was finished with **polished (not glazed) subgingival surfaces** to optimize tissue health.



Healing Abutment

Start In place Finish



If you have a patient with a complicated dental problem, it would be our pleasure to help with diagnosing, planning, or treatment execution for complex cases.

Types of cases we are often referred: full mouth reconstruction, full arch implants, crowns on all teeth, and missing teeth - especially if it's a difficult situation.

When patients are referred, we refer them back to their general dentist for regular hygiene, unless advised otherwise by the referring office, depending on the patient and treatment. If you would like assistance in helping a patient with a complicated dental problem, please call our office, or email us at: info@MengDental.com

◆ How can a Board Certified Prosthodontist assist you and your dental team?

We 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 us and we can discuss treatment planning or we can help you with any part of the treatment.

Our 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.

ABOUT OUR SPECIALTY PRACTICE



Joe Meng
Board Certified
Prosthodontist



Graham Meng
Board Certified
Prosthodontist

Meng Dentistry is a comprehensive, specialty dental practice that focuses on the restoration and replacement of missing teeth with natural-looking, well-fitted, comfortable prosthetic teeth primarily using dentures, implants, and crowns. The specialists at Meng Dentistry have training and private practice experience that 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 mouth rehabilitation to restore function & esthetics.

In addition, Meng Dentistry is equipped with an **in-house dental lab**, for your referred patients to receive custom restorations from the best materials using the latest technology.

Learn more about how they can help your patients by scanning this QR code:



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. We want to work with you to provide your patients with the best possible treatment outcomes. We will treat your patient in a manner that will reflect well on you and strengthen your relationship with your patient. We are 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. We are grateful for your colleagueship and trust with your patients!"

Our Pledge

When your patient is referred:

- ✓ We will only treat what your patient needs.
- ✓ We will send you updates.
- ✓ We will be part of your team, not take over your patients.

◆ Have you seen a patient in one of these situations?

These are the most common reasons why other dentists refer to a Prosthodontist:

- **Failing Restorations** — Broken or worn prosthetics, or poorly-fitting dentures
- **Implant Complications** — Mal-positioned or loose implants, or multiple systems
- **Severe Wear** — Advanced attrition from grinding or erosion, and collapsed vertical
- **Terminal Dentition** — Perio disease or neglect, requiring extractions and prosthetics
- **Edentulous Problems** — Resorbed ridges or lack of bone, wanting a fixed solution
- **Occlusal Issues** — Advanced mal-occlusion, jaw discrepancies, canted plane
- **Challenging Esthetics** — Un-esthetic restorations, high smile line, high expectations
- **Missing Anteriors** — Central incisors from trauma or laterals from genetics

These "complex cases" may drain your time — how to help these patients:

Prosthodontists can be a resource to ask questions or help properly stage and manage complex treatment, often involving multiple specialists and providers over months of care. They can coordinate repair or replacement of teeth with fixed or removable prosthetics, to give patients ideal function and esthetics, then refer the patient back to you.