



The Role of Prosthodontics in Managing Severe Tooth Extraction Cases: A Multidisciplinary Perspective

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Abstract

in restoring patients' ability to chew, speak, and maintain a natural appearance.

Full arch rehabilitation:

In cases where multiple teeth or an entire arch of teeth must be extracted, full arch rehabilitation is often required. Prosthodontists utilize a combination of fixed and removable prosthetics, such as full dentures, partial dentures, and implant-supported restorations, to restore oral function and aesthetics.

Dentures: Traditional removable dentures are one option for restoring missing teeth, but they often have limitations in terms of comfort, stability, and appearance. Despite their drawbacks, dentures remain an accessible and cost-effective solution for patients with severe tooth loss.

Implant-supported prosthetics: In recent years, implant-supported restorations have become the gold standard for restoring severely edentulous patients. Dental implants, which are titanium posts placed into the jawbone, offer a more permanent and stable solution than traditional dentures. Prosthodontists can design fixed restorations, such as implant-supported bridges or crowns, to replace missing teeth.

Fixed prosthodontics: For patients who retain some remaining natural teeth, fixed prostheses such as bridges can be designed to restore function while enhancing aesthetics. These restorations may also serve as a way to stabilize the remaining natural dentition and prevent shifting.

Aesthetic and functional considerations:

Restoring the aesthetics of a patient's smile is equally as important as ensuring proper function. Prosthodontists work with patients to develop treatment plans that meet both cosmetic and functional needs. In cases where the front teeth are lost, achieving a natural-looking smile is a priority. In contrast, when posterior teeth are extracted, the focus is often on restoring the ability to chew efficiently.

Occlusal restoration: Prosthodontists carefully assess the patient's bite and occlusion (the way the teeth fit together) to ensure that new restorations do not cause problems with TMJ function or lead to excessive wear of the remaining teeth.

Smile design: For patients seeking aesthetic restorations, prosthodontists use digital technology and advanced materials to design lifelike prostheses that mimic the natural appearance of teeth. Materials like porcelain and zirconia provide superior esthetic outcomes due to their translucency and durability.

Multidisciplinary collaboration in severe tooth extraction cases

While prosthodontics plays a central role in the management of severe tooth loss, collaboration with other dental specialties is essential for optimal outcomes. A multidisciplinary approach ensures that all aspects of the patient's oral health are addressed comprehensively.

Oral surgeons

Oral and maxillofacial surgeons play a critical role in managing the surgical aspect of severe tooth extraction cases. In some cases, extractions may involve impacted teeth, cysts, or tumors that require surgical intervention. The surgeon's expertise in managing these issues ensures that the site is properly prepared for subsequent prosthetic

restoration, especially when dental implants are being considered.

Conflict of Interest

None

References

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