



must be very retentive. Separate abutments for

the implants can be avoided if the implants are perpendicular to the occlusal plane. A screw alone can then connect the crown to the implant, as in Fig. 4 (page 42). If that's not possible, make the

implant abutment very parallel to the tooth

failed cases.

failure.

viable.

Summary

term, successful cases.

preparation. If the abutment crown comes loose from the tooth, the tooth will intrude into the bone rapidly. I learned this 20 years ago with several

Scratch and roughen the axial walls of the tooth preparation and the implant abutment, if using a separate abutment. This will provide a "luting" effect and interdigitation of the cement

Use resin cement. Resin cement such as 3M RelyX Unicem 2, Kerr Maxcem Elite Chroma, Ivoclar Vivadent Multilink Automix and Kuraray

Panavia offer strength. You need strength!

Avoid use of provisional cements. The

connection between the implant and the tooth must be rigid, or the tooth will fail by intrusion when the cement fails on the tooth abutment.

Adjust occlusion carefully. Traumatic occlusion

The false assumption that implants should not be

attached to natural teeth has permeated the profession for several years. It is now obvious from both clinical observation and controlled research that this procedure, done correctly, is

This article includes suggestions for when this procedure is desirable, describes an acceptable technique, and shows examples of several long-

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March 2019

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practicing prosthodontist in Provo, Utah, and an

can break the cement bond and cause overall

into the tooth prep and the abutment.

Fig. 5: A hopeless, discouraged cleft palate patient who had two conventional-diameter implants fail that were planned for removable prosthesis retention. She wanted a fixed prosthesis. The image on the right shows two small-diameter implants at the day of placement in the healed bone. There is almost no bone in the anterior area. Fig. 6: The nine-unit porcelain-fused-to-metal fixed prosthesis has now served for 12 years supported and retained by both teeth and implants. She has been a very faithful patient with her oral hygiene and has avoided

chewing hard foods in the anterior portion of her mouth.

Technique for connecting teeth

properly, teeth can be connected to implants. After many years of placing implants, I will fully admit this is not my preferred technique; however, it solves commonly occurring treatment planning challenges, a few of which have been identified in

Select only strong, healthy teeth. Connecting

Contrary to popular belief, when accomplished

Fig. 5

Fig. 6

to implants

this article.

What is the proper technique?

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new clinical technology in your practice in

Have you spent more than \$15,000 on

the past three years?

() Yes

) No

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