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restoration by carefully placing the wax on the prepared teeth. The wax was then removed and the teeth were prepared for the final restoration. The wax was then removed and the teeth were prepared for the final restoration.

Implant Crowns and Veneers Using Nitrogen and Heat-Processed Microhybrids

By Lorin Berland, DDS, and Paul Westbrook, CDT

The following is an example of the comprehensive cosmetic and functional dental treatment of a woman with flaws in her smile (Figures 1 and 2).¹

A healthy 47-year-old woman was referred to me by her orthodontist. She was interested in fixing her smile, and the upcoming weddings of her two children provided the impetus to finally do something. An examination revealed she had good oral hygiene and healthy teeth, but a few glaring congenital dental defects. Her chief concern was her two lower retained deciduous central incisors. These teeth were small, dark, and perilously loose. She wouldn't even let her daughter, a hygienist, clean these teeth for fear they may come out (Figure 3).

She also wanted to close the spaces and fix the line angles of her four maxillary incisors. Spending time with the hand mirror, I showed her the uneven gumline. Once teeth are in alignment and the spaces are closed, it's too late to correct any gumline discrepancies, so treatment must always begin with the gums.

Her last concern was the missing lower right bicuspid. She had a removable partial denture for more than 20 years. She never liked it nor hardly ever wore it because she was always afraid she would lose it (Figures 4 and 5).

Treatment began by taking photos and necessary radiographs and constructing study models. We discussed two bridges or two implants on the bottom. On the top, we discussed 4 to 10 veneers. She found the idea of drilling down perfectly good teeth for crowns or bridgework repugnant, which was why she had avoided doing anything until that point. She wanted to do what was necessary to ensure an attractive smile but not go overboard.

The best way to properly treat her was to do a diagnostic wax-up of the teeth following the golden proportion. Keeping treatment to a minimum of teeth, I waxed up Nos. 7, 8, 9, 10, 24, 25, and 29. We also went over the uneven gumline again. Although veneering the upper cuspid, bicuspid, and incisors might have looked



Figure 1.—Pre-treatment, full face.



Figure 2.—Pre-treatment, close up.



Figure 3.—Radiograph of deciduous teeth.



Figure 4.—Close-up of missing lower right second bicuspid and deciduous lower central incisors.



Figure 5.—Radiograph of congenitally missing No. 25.



Figures 6 and 7.—Radiographs of titanium implants.



Figure 8.—Cosmetic gum contouring with the Ellman Dentosurg.

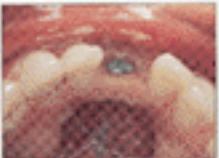


Figure 9.—Lower anterior implant ready for restoration.



Figure 10.—Retracted view of incisors prepared for veneers.



Figure 11.—The crowns were cemented and the veneers were bonded in place.



Figure 12.—Post-treatment, full face.

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