

About Prosthodontics

Prosthodontics is one of the nine dental specialties recognized by the American Dental Association (ADA). A prosthodontist is a dental specialist with extensive training in the restoration and replacement of teeth. This unique training provides the prosthodontist with a special understanding of the dynamics of a smile, the preservation of a healthy mouth and the creation of tooth replacements. Serving as the "architect" of a dental treatment plan, the prosthodontist collaborates with general dentists, specialists, and other health professionals to develop solutions to your dental and oral health concerns.

A prosthodontist provides an extremely high level of care to patients with missing teeth, or with significant damage to their existing teeth. The prosthodontist works with congenital defects as well as problems arising from trauma and neglect.

A prosthodontist is highly trained in state-of-the-art techniques and procedures for treating many diverse and complex dental conditions and restoring optimum function and esthetics. These include: crowns, bridges, complete and removable partial dentures, dental implants, TMD-jaw joint problems, traumatic injuries to the mouth's structures and/or teeth, snoring or sleep disorders and oral cancer reconstruction and continuing care.

A prosthodontist must complete dental school, plus three additional years of advanced training and education in an ADA-accredited prosthodontic education program.

A prosthodontist is a dental specialist in the restoration and replacement of teeth. He can recommend and provide the best treatment available, including crowns and bridges, partial dentures and complete dentures, veneers and bonding, dental implant reconstruction and TMD - jaw joint problems.

In our office, Dr. Moffitt, will serve as the "architect" of the dental treatment plan as he provides the diagnosis and proposed restorative plan in collaboration with general dentists, specialists and other health professionals to develop solutions to your dental concerns. Great care and pride is taken in providing our patients with esthetically attractive and natural-looking cosmetic restorations.

Typically, the three main necessary elements required to provide patient satisfaction with dental treatment are:

- **Function:** The patient can chew, laugh, yawn, sneeze, smile with pride and be active within any social relationship with no concern
- **Comfort:** The patient can do all the normal lifestyle functions described above without fear of embarrassment from loose teeth, movement, or bad breath. Above all NO PAIN.
- **Esthetics:** The term "esthetics" or "aesthetics" refers to natural beauty: generally composed of proper shape and size, position, color and symmetry of the teeth, the gingival (gums) and bone structure. The term "cosmetic" is a term used to describe the enhancement of, or beautification of one's appearance through the use of addition of color (i.e. makeup), or the masking of blemishes, etc. A dental example might be bleaching or whitening of the natural teeth in order to achieve a more attractive smile. Tastefully done, cosmetics can be appealing and provide ENHANCEMENT of one's natural beauty but is, by definition, not natural. The best way to achieve esthetics is by creating the most natural, beautiful, functional, and healthy teeth possible using all dental innovations currently available.