

präs'thō dän'tist

www.prosthodontics.org

What is a Prosthodontist?

welcome...

- Most of us are familiar with dental specialists
 - Orthodontist
 - Periodontist
- But there's another specialist that might not be so familiar
 - Highly educated
 - Specialty training
 - Dedicated to the health of the entire mouth

what is a prosthodontist?

- Some common answers:
 - “I have no idea.”
 - “That’s not a real name...”
 - “Some kind of dinosaur?”
 - “Maybe something to do with the prostate?”

definition: prosthodontist

- A Prosthodontist is an expert in the restoration and replacement of teeth who specializes in esthetic and reconstructive dentistry.

“I arrived at the office...

....and I noticed that her equipment was state-of-the-art. I also learned that she supervised the process from beginning to end. I was very happy that I found a specialist who made me beautiful teeth and I'm very happy with the result.”

- Beverly , patient

what prosthodontists do

- Take a “whole mouth” approach to dental care
- At the forefront of cutting-edge procedures
- The quarterback of a team
 - Supervise treatments from start to finish
 - Work with general dentists, other specialists and dental technicians
- Don't just help your mouth look better...help it feel better

...and last for years to come

areas of expertise

- Esthetic Dentistry
- Reconstructive Dentistry
- Crowns
- Bridges
- Dentures
- Implants
- Veneers
- Replacing Missing Teeth
- Maxillofacial Prosthetics

it's not easy to become a prosthodontist...

- At least three years of training beyond dental school
- Programs are rigorous, small and highly selective
 - Dentists from all over the world compete for a spot in U.S. Prosthodontic programs
- One of only nine recognized specialties of the American Dental Association

...but prosthodontists love what they do

“I love being able to integrate creativity, artistry, technical skills and interpersonal relations all together and use these skills on a daily basis to help change people’s lives and improve their smiles.”

- Dr. Ashley Curington

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How to Create Your Perfect Smile

replacing lost teeth

- Loss of natural teeth
 - Can be traumatic
 - Affects outlook on life
 - Simple pleasures become stressful
- Options for lost teeth
 - Bridges
 - Full or partial dentures
 - Dental implants



before



after

dental implants

- Successful for a wide variety of patients
- Replaces one tooth or many
- Look, feel and function just like natural teeth
- Healthier for the mouth
 - Prevent bone loss by keeping jaw active
- Quicker and easier than ever before
 - Used to take months, now days
- A Prosthodontist oversees every step of treatment
 - From initial consultation to follow-up care

complex care management

- Prosthodontists routinely handle the most complex treatments
- Wide range of causes
 - Rehabilitation after a traumatic injury
 - Cancer patient reconstruction
 - Genetic facial defects
- Prosthodontists have the special skills needed to restore smiles to the best they can be

smiling again

“You can see that the patients are going to be leaving the office and feeling like they’re on top of the earth. It’s truly rewarding to be able to say goodbye to a patient and know you’ve made such a dramatic improvement for them whether it’s functional or visual.”

- Dr. Ashley Curington

cosmetic/esthetic dentistry

- The importance of a healthy smile
 - Affects self-esteem, confidence
 - A beautiful smile also needs to be healthy
- Procedures include
 - Placing complete ceramic esthetic crowns or “caps” onto teeth
 - Placing veneers onto teeth to conceal defects
 - Using bonding technology on a tooth’s surface to change its shape or to close unwanted gaps
 - Bleaching discolored teeth to brighten and whiten a smile

the focus is on the long-term...

“It’s very important that people take a long-term perspective when doing an esthetic restoration. We want to do something that’s healthy for people as well as meeting their esthetic needs.”

- Dr. Ashley Curington

...and patients are smiling

“I always love to ask my friends which one of my teeth aren’t real, and they are amazed to find out that it’s my two front teeth that aren’t mine.”

- *Gina Bradshaw, patient*

creating beautiful smiles

before



after



before



after



benefits of a PRO

- Not all dentists have the training you need
 - Some perform reconstructive dental work after just a weekend course on a procedure
- Prosthodontists are specialists
 - ADA-recognized
 - Rigorous education beyond dental school
 - Unique understanding of the dynamics of a smile, the preservation of a healthy mouth and the creation of tooth replacement

who should go to a prosthodontist?

- You should go to a Prosthodontist if you
 - Have complex needs
 - Demand high esthetic results
 - Need someone to oversee a procedure with more than one specialist
 - Want someone who has undergone rigorous training

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Go to a PRO

Dr. Ashley P. Curington D.M.D., P.C.

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