

October 2019  
Newsletter

# Smile Design Center

*Implant Specialists - Home of the Flex Temps*

*Jade*  
DENTAL LAB

**Moving Ahead.** “How do I do larger cases?” The first step in any large case, such as a round house or even a large anterior bridge, is no different than an All on Four. When we do a large case Esthetics are usually the driving force — how the patient looks. Getting a patient’s input is important but knowing what is esthetically correct is paramount. The patient is looking to you for guidance. How many times when an esthetic issue is a concern does the patient say, “You’re the expert, so whatever you think.”

A big case should be driven by several factors — Esthetics, Occlusion, Restorative Options, and Biology (Perio, Endo, Surgical needs).

1. Esthetic: As a starter, evaluating the case with photos — Front, Side, Large Smile with Teeth in Occlusion, with Full Facial and Tooth Photos and study models, upper, lower, and bite. Also using cheek retractors to show the gingival height of teeth. X-rays and full perio evaluation. With the bite a stick bite or face bow will be a must to get proper tooth angles.

2. Occlusion: With the models, photos, and patient’s biology the models can be mounted properly and evaluated. On a smaller case what correction to the occlusion will be required to get the proper esthetics. On the larger scale example, a full arch restoration, opening a bite, or an all on four.

3. Restorations. This part has two restorations. First the temporary appliance and then the final. It is very important in a larger restoration that a lab-made temporary is fabricated or a chairside temporary is made from a vacuum form from a diagnostic design model. The reason for this step, other than chair time savings, when a temporary is designed in the lab the case is designed on the computer by the technician in the design software. The development of the case is being done at this point. Also, once the temporary is inserted changes can be made if needed before the final restoration is made. Once the temporary is delivered everyone, including the patient, will be more comfortable about how the case is developing. The lab temporary will also survive better than a chair side temp if a try-in is needed on the final.

