

November 2019  
Newsletter

# Smile Design Center

*Implant Specialists - Home of the Flex Temps*

**Jade**  
DENTAL LAB

## The New Work of Today is "Screwmentable" Implant Crowns

It's not a new term for many dentists today. This is a combination of a custom abutment with a crown with an occlusal hole on top. The original crown started with PFM Screw-Retained restorations. The problem with PFM screw-retained restorations is that the base of the abutment is casted and fired in a porcelain oven. Unfortunately this can distort the inside of the restoration and the interface between the base and the implant. The Screwmentable restoration leaves the base untouched even when the crown is cemented on the Titanium abutment.

Good insurance news: These crowns have both a Custom Abutment and an implant crown. Both can be billed separately. In most cases the cast-to-base for PFMs are the most expensive product that most implant companies sell. These PFMs will come out costing less than the old way.

**"OH, BY THE WAY, YOU CAN ASK FOR SR (Screw-retained) AND WE WILL MATCH UP THE BEST WAY TO DO THE CASE."**

Screwmentable on some Zirconia and PFM bridges too! On bridge work you will see these cases coming back looking like a cementable case but the bridge will have a lingual or an occlusal hole in the bridge over the abutments. You will treat the case as a normal cementable case but the hole will give you future retrievability. There are several reasons not to cement the case in the lab.

1. On screw-retained bridges the interlocking mechanism in the implant is removed and the bridge becomes supported by the screws only. This technique has always somewhat bothered me. On simple bridges of two or three abutments this could be an unnecessary risk. By doing it as a screwmentable case, with the doctor cementing the case in the mouth, this problem will be eliminated.
2. Also, on a crown with a severe angle where the contacts may be an issue or the implant is placed somewhat not parallel, a conventional screw-retained bridge can make seating the case difficult and the contacts can be a real issue. Putting the abutments in first and correcting the draw and then cementing the bridge will make the case much easier to place and the holes will make the case still retrievable.



## Taking Photos for Shade Matching

We have been getting some great photos from doctors for shade matching.

Remember to look at your photo to determine the correct value or the amount of grey in a shade. Also include a shade tab in the photo capturing the shade tab number. Please write down the number because the number isn't always visible.

Also, the photo may have more orange or is darker than the real tooth. Please indicate this on the work order.



Most teeth won't match the shade tab exactly. It is important to indicate that the tooth value might be more grey or the hue may be more orange brown than the guide. When picking a tab first match the value (grey) tab that matches the tooth the closest then go to the hue or color. Remember, the whitest shades are the most difficult to match.

In the next few months we will be working on a totally new shade checking system for us. We will keep you posted and invite your feedback. Thanks for your help.

Sincerely, Paul Ema, CDT  
President of Jade Dental Lab

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**The case is sent un-cemented. The case will be cemented in the mouth after the hole is filled with teflon tape.**