Adult Class II Patient Possibility for Pre-Prosthetic Treatment

A 34-year-old male patient in need of prosthetic rehabilitation comes to a practice.

A message from Dr. Dan Grob, editorial director of Orthotown Magazine

The tendency in most orthodontic practices is to answer the question, “Can I solve all of the patient’s problems with braces?” Or put another way, “I have a hammer, so let’s see if we can hit this nail.”

Many times, by offering some limited service to the patient, a restorative dentist can assist with the total oral rehabilitation of the individual. The following case shows how an orthodontist can apply limited treatment to enhance the final outcome.

Introduction: The patient is a 34-year-old male with Class II Division 1, mandibular crowding, multiple extractions, skeletal open bite and protrusion of mandibular incisors.

He came to the practice for prosthetic rehabilitation. The prosthodontist referred him for orthodontic treatment. The patient is not willing to do surgery and TADs. He just wants to align his teeth before prosthetics. Would you treat this patient?

What are the restorative goals, especially from the patient’s point of view? I believe that, and what the restorative dentist plans to do, are what will drive your orthodontic contributions, which may already be limited by a patient who has limitations.

The prosthetic plan for this patient is to have bridges in the upper jaw and on the lower left side. The prosthodontist referred him for correction of mandibular crowding before the start of his treatment.