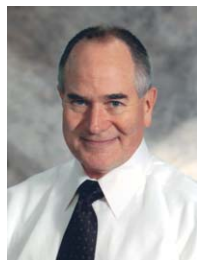


## Preface

# Removable Prosthodontics



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*Guest Editors*

The term *removable prosthodontics* does not have the same negative connotation of hopelessness that it had a few years ago. Implant dentistry has provided ways to improve rehabilitation significantly with a relatively minor increase in cost. An obvious example of this is how two strategically located implants can enhance the stability and retention of a mandibular complete denture. Implants also have stimulated interest and improvements in dental attachments. The availability of new and improved attachments has promoted their use for both conventional and implant restorations.

New techniques and devices coupled with traditional knowledge and skills used in constructing removable restorations have ushered in an exciting era in dentistry. Dentists today know and continue to learn more about using an extended armamentarium to improve stability, retention, comfort, durability, and esthetics with removable prosthodontics that previously was unattainable. Furthermore, removable restorations can now be made so that they do less harm and preserve remaining natural anatomic structures better than in the past. This enhances our professional satisfaction with the care we can provide patients for improvements in the quality of their lives.

We believe you will find that the experts contributing to this issue of the *Dental Clinics of North America* have shared new and traditional information that is interesting, useful, and valuable.

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