CASE OF THE QUARTER

Management of a Failing Maxillary Central Incisor

From Compromised Tooth to Implant-Supported Aesthetic Restoration

Presented by:
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Patient Background

The patient was referred to Emsworth Specialist Practice with concerns regarding a failing upper central incisor. Clinical and radiographic assessment identified advanced structural compromise secondary to dental caries, rendering the tooth unrestorable.

Given the tooth's position within the aesthetic zone, careful planning was required to manage both **soft tissue architecture** and **aesthetic expectations** throughout treatment.

Clinical Findings

- Extensive caries affecting the maxillary central incisor
- Poor long-term prognosis for tooth preservation
- High aesthetic risk due to anterior tooth position
- Need to maintain smile aesthetics during treatment
- Adequate bone volume for implant placement following extraction

Treatment Overview

- Provide an immediate aesthetic solution following tooth loss
- Preserve soft tissue contours and papilae
- Replace the failing tooth with a predictable, long-term solution
- Deliver a highly aesthetic final restoration harmonious with the adjacent dentition

Treatment Overview

1. Tooth Removal & Interim Aesthetic Management

The failing central incisor was carefully removed, and the patient was provided with an **interim aesthetic denture**. This allowed immediate replacement of the missing tooth, maintaining appearance, phonetics, and confidence during healing.

2. Implant Placement

Following appropriate healing and assessment, a dental implant was placed in the maxillary central incisor site, with attention to three-dimensional positioning to support optimal emergence profile and long-term soft tissue stability.

3. Prosthodontic Restoration

After successful osseointegration, the implant was restored with a carefully contoured, implant-supported crown. Shade matching, tooth morphology, and gingival integration were meticulously managed to ensure seamless integration with the adjacent natural teeth.

Outcome

The final result delivered:

- Restoration of a natural, confident smile
- Excellent soft tissue contour and papilla support
- Predictable function and long-term stability
- High patient satisfaction with both aesthetics and comfort

This case highlights the importance of **interdisciplinary planning**, **temporary aesthetic solutions**, and **prosthodontic precision** when managing anterior implant cases.

Pre-Operative Full Smile & Retracted View

Pre-operative smile demonstrating aesthetic compromise associated with a failing maxillary central incisor.





Interim Aesthetic Denture in Situ

Interim aesthetic denture provided immediately following tooth removal to maintain smile aesthetics, phonetics, and patient confidence during healing.



Final Implant-Supported Restoration – Smile and Retracted Views

Final implant-supported screw retained zirconia crown in situ, demonstrating harmonious integration with the adjacent dentition. Slight blanching of mucosa present which settled post fit.





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