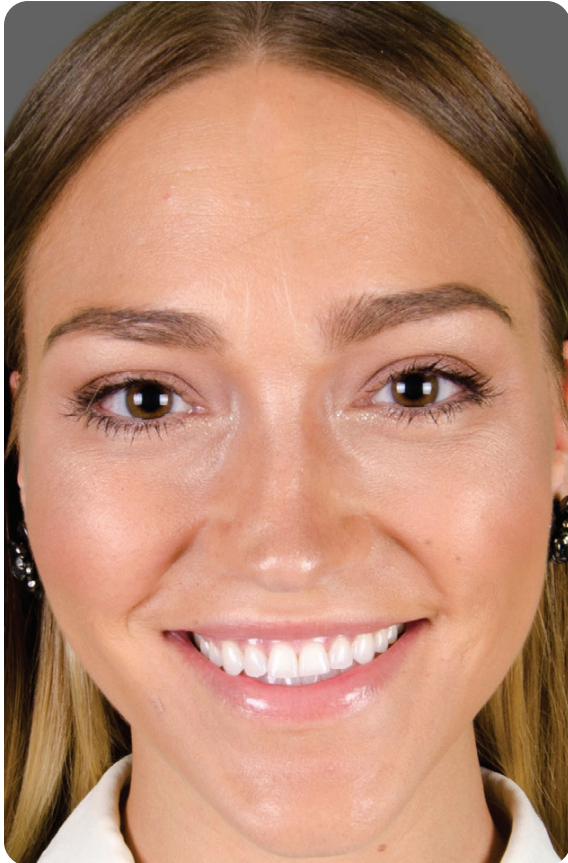# Complex Fixed Case Protocol

Step 1: Photography

Prior to beginning a large restorative case, send the following photos to the lab.

1. Full-face smiling

2. Full-face retracted

3. Close-up smiling

4. Close-up retracted

Complex Fixed Case Protocol

5. Stick bite full face

6. Close–up with lips in repose

7. Send lab pre–op impression or
   study models (Photographed are
   lab mounted study models)

8. Make sure upper impression
   captures palate in case palatal
   bite transfer is needed

Complex Fixed Case Protocol

Step 2: Diagnostic Wax–up

Prior to the prepping appointment, request the lab fabricate a diagnostic wax–up.

1. Lab fabricated diagnostic wax–up

2. Once the patient approves the wax–up, utilize the wax–up to fabricate patient temporaries or request lab fabricated temporaries

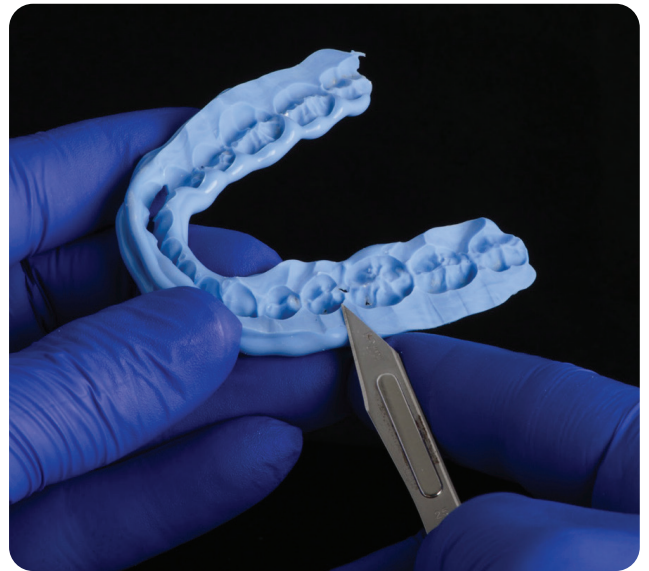# Complex Fixed Case Protocol

Step 3: Progressive Bite

By taking the following bite, the lab will have adequate information to provide you with final restorations that minimize occlusal adjustments.

*Note: The following photos represent clinical bite registrations taken on a patient, NOT on a model.

1. Take a full arch pre–op bite of the patient in maximum intercuspation

2. Prep the bite to eliminate undercuts and interferences

3. Selectively prep patient teeth one quadrant at a time

4. Reline the bite at the preps using light body impression material

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5. Photo shows a properly relined bite with undercuts removed

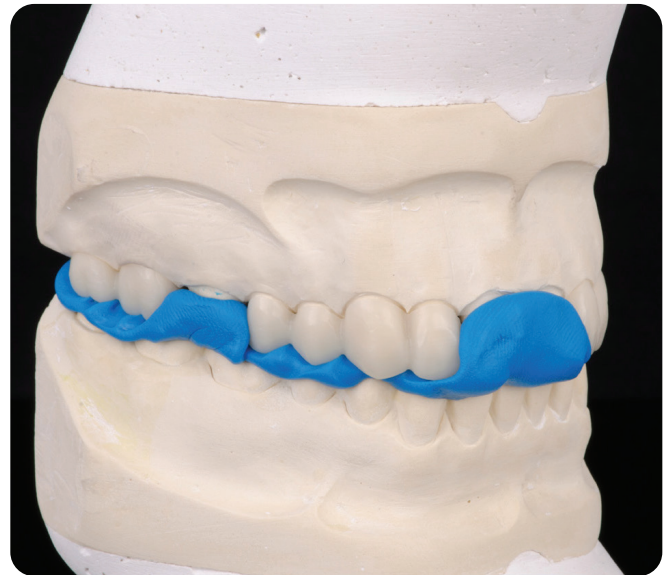6. Continue prepping and relining until the full arch has been completed

Complex Fixed Case Protocol

Step 4: VDO Changes "Tripod" Bite

While patient is wearing temps, if a change in VDO is necessary, use the following bite sequence to provide the lab the necessary info to fabricate the final restorations to a new VDO.

1. Selectively remove one posterior temporary from the left and right side, as well as removing two anterior temporaries, thus creating a tri–pod effect

2. After removal of the posterior and anterior temporaries, take a new bite registration as shown above, capturing all four preps in addition to the full arch, thus creating a tri–pod bite for the lab to remount the case

Updated: 12/2/2025