

CASE REPORT



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Three dentists, two teeth, one solution

There was a problem

There were three dentists: maxilo facial surgeon, endodontist (aka myself), and the one with a problem - specialist in prosthetic dentistry, deadly scared of being on a dental chair, even for the most common dental check-up, let alone a proper examination or radiography.

For years his attitude has left him unable to fix his ancient amalgam fillings on previously endodontically treated lower molars. (pic. 1). He had already lost his 45 by some unfortunate accident, and the two damaged molars looked really ugly, foreshadowing major problems in the near future. Any attempts from his two fellow colleagues tried to persuade him to fix both the old and the fresh problems in his mouth were left with no success.



New Hope

One of his friends got a brand-new x-ray device: Dentsply Sirona Orthophos SL 3D.

You can imagine all three of us were excited to start implementing 3D examination in everyday clinical practice. On the very first day when Orthophos was installed in the office, since there were no true patients in the waiting room, we asked our friend to voluntarily make a 3D radiography of his molars, just for good luck and a happy beginning. Since it was not required intra oral sensor manipulation, overawed frighten dentist said yes and they decided to test the 3D on himself.

Awaking

An avalanche of negative emotions covered the poor dentist as soon as he saw 3D of his lower jaw. The image was a cruel proof of huge bone loss caused by infection of purely treated molars. This new cognition sobered him up from all his fears and another x-ray with Intraoral sensor was made. (pic. 2, 3). It was relieving to find that a simple x-ray image made a shift in our dear friend and woke him up ready to act: It wasn't enough knowing the information, it was the understanding through those pictures that woke him up to his full attention.

An ordinary dilemma: what to do!?

Maxilo facial surgeon who was his friend since childhood, immediately suggested:

- We shall remove them, and after healing with artificial bone material, we shall place implant, and it must be done as soon as possible.

Do not forget how phobic of any dental treatment our friend was just a few seconds ago, and this radical solution was far beyond his brave heart! He needs just a couple of seconds, and he beseeched me and pleaded to me with a sad look on his eyes:

- Your endo can fix my molars, right?

- ...

How to say no, especially if you believe in Endodontics.

Endodontics – The Queen of Dentistry

Long story short: I removed the metal post, (pic. 4, 5, 6) performed retreatment using Protaper retreatment D1 file initially, followed by Protaper Next up to X5. After proper irrigation and activation with Endo Activator for about 30 minutes on each canal, I filled with Thermaphill*, and all was done in a single session. The day was too long, and too emotional for all of us. Everyone was happy for the new 3D x-ray installed in our friends office, and we were happy to see our friend relaxed and optimistic (pics with treatment).

Waiting for the Spring

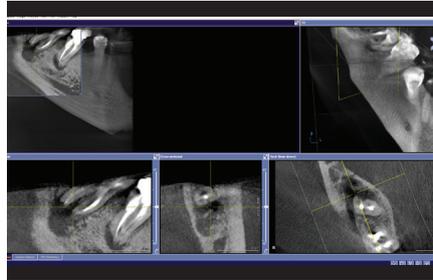
Fast forward to about 10 months later, and I am happily showing the latest images of his treated tooth last year in March (pic. 7, pic. 8). Latest images clearly demonstrate obvious success of endodontic treatment. Meanwhile, my good friends and our fellow colleagues implemented 3D in every day procedures improving their diagnostics primarily. The case of our very first 3D, and successful endodontic, became a well-known story amongst our

fellow colleagues in the city. Dr. Bogdan Oprea from Sibiu, once said how 3D has helped him to "save a day - saving the tooth", and nothing more I can add to the story repeated every day in our surgeries.

* Product replaced in Dentsply Sirona's offer with Conform Fit Gutta-Percha.



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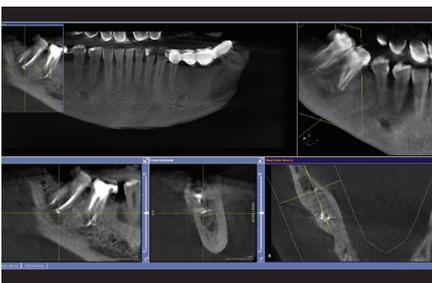
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