

## Essix Appliance



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## Background

- Clear or transparent retainer
- Fits over the entire arch of teeth and is produced from a mold. It is similar in appearance to Orthodontic Invisalign trays, though the latter are not considered "retainers".
- Appearance is also similar to a bleaching tray with a tooth placed in for the missing one or a surgical guide without the hole to guide the surgeon.

## Expectations

During fabrication or healing of an implant, patients want a transitional prosthesis that provides:

- Esthetics
- Function

## Time Frame of Tissue Management

- Extraction
- Place Interim RPD
- Socket Healing time (wait 6 weeks to 6 months)
- Place implants under the soft tissues (wait 3 to 6 months)
- Expose the implants, healing abutments placed (wait 2 to 4 weeks)
- Final prostheses (2 months to 4 months)

*THE WAIT IS APPROXIMATELY ONE YEAR!*

## Selection and Design of Interim Prosthesis are Critical

- Don't want undesirable load on the newly placed implants which can jeopardize their potential osseointegration
- Can interfere with the esthetic soft tissue healing and ultimately the final esthetic results of the case.

## Indications

- The challenge is to develop a transitional process that is not only smooth and efficient, but also one that
- applies minimal pressure on the healing implants
- provides for minimal bone loss of alveolus,
- more precise positioning of implants
- more predictable restorative results.

### Vacuum-formed Matrix with Denture Teeth



### Anterior



### Posterior



### Contraindications

- Pts with Bruxism, Essix retainers are prone to rapid breakage and deterioration.
- During the first few days of retainer use, many people will have extra saliva in their mouth. This is natural and is due to the presence of a new object inside the mouth and consequent stimulation of the salivary glands.
- Speech may be difficult to speak for a while after getting a retainer, but should go away over time as one gets used to wearing it. There is usually a slight change in speech in the first 1-2 weeks, usually in the form of a lisp, but speech eventually returns to normal.

### Fabrication

- Make an excellent impression
- Pour molds
- Select denture teeth or do wax up
  - Must make duplicate cast if doing wax up
  - Place piece of Triad to adhere denture tooth to cast
- Vacuum form fabricated
  - Extension 2mm from free gingival margins of teeth
  - If have palate, trim away or make a hole in center
  - Trimmed until smooth
- Denture tooth should come out with matrix. If doing duplicate cast of wax up, can fill selected site with acrylic resin

### Lab

- Should have cast ready to go after completing interim RPD exercise
- Make vacuum formed matrix and trim to proper dimensions and until smooth
- Grind out a tooth, preferably an anterior tooth i.e. #8 or 9
- Place acrylic resin and polish pontic surface. Be sure pontic surface is not impeding the cast.
- Refit onto cast and be sure completely seats.