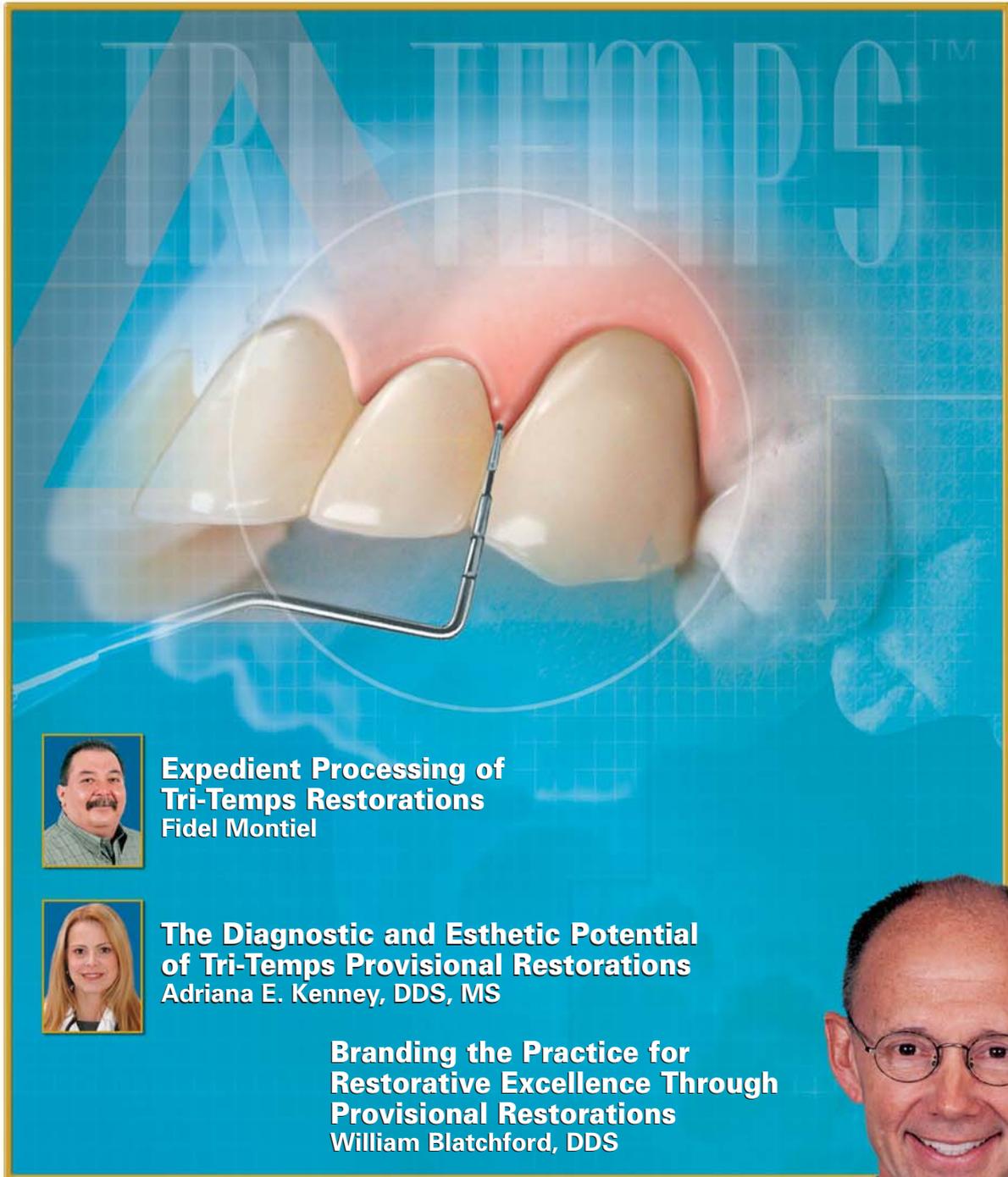


# Perspectives

Dental Practice Building Strategies



**Expedient Processing of  
Tri-Temps Restorations**  
Fidel Montiel

**The Diagnostic and Esthetic Potential  
of Tri-Temps Provisional Restorations**  
Adriana E. Kenney, DDS, MS

**Branding the Practice for  
Restorative Excellence Through  
Provisional Restorations**  
William Blatchford, DDS

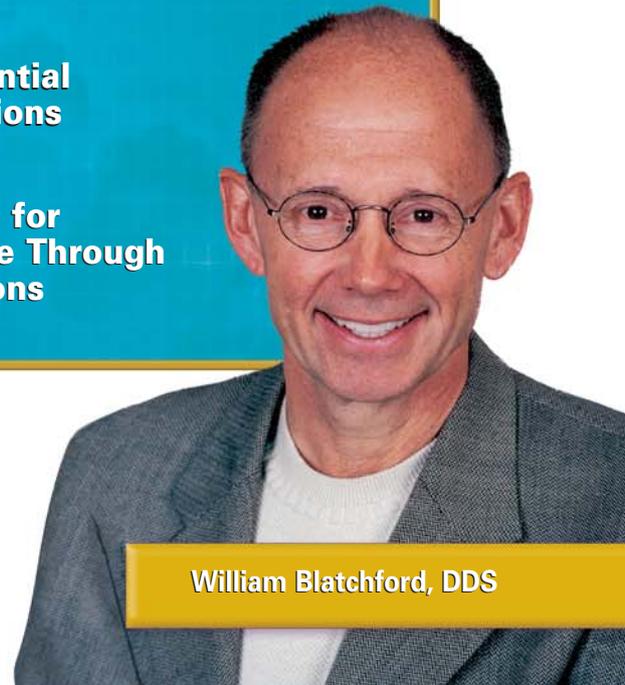


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A Montage Media Publication



William Blatchford, DDS



The provisional restoration remains an essential component to the success of the final restoration. With the growth in restorative procedures, the demand for natural-looking provisionals has also increased.

## THE TRI-TEMPS SOLUTION TO PROVISIONAL RESTORATIONS



To fulfill these requirements, Trident Dental Laboratories is pleased to offer Tri-Temps™—temporary restorations that offer an immediate solution for strength, esthetics, and natural fit. Tri-Temps provides an esthetic temporary crown or bridge between tooth preparation and the final restoration as well as a confident smile during case treatment.

The first issue of *Perspectives* in 2004 features practice development capabilities through the prescription and adoption of Tri-Temps provisional restorations into the treatment protocol. We are pleased to present Dr. William Blatchford, who discusses management initiatives utilizing Tri-Temps to support patient consultation and treatment planning and achieve greater case acceptance.

**Special incentive program**—submit your Tri-Temps invoice with your final restoration case to Trident and your Tri-Temps case is FREE! In addition, be sure to take advantage of the enclosed offers—one for 25% off your next crown-and-bridge case and a second for a free Tri-Temps patient demonstration model.

We look forward to another year of supporting you, our loyal customers, with the latest in technology and materials for continued practice growth and profitability. Your support throughout the years has been greatly appreciated and we welcome your comments and suggestions on how we can serve you even better. Please feel free to contact us at **1-800-221-4831** or via e-mail at [perspectives@tridentlab.com](mailto:perspectives@tridentlab.com).

Sincerely,

Laurence K. Fishman  
Owner, President  
Trident Dental Laboratories

# The Diagnostic and Esthetic Potential of Tri-Temps Provisional Restorations

Adriana E. Kenney, DDS, MS

The development of an optimal treatment plan includes a thorough evaluation of the patient's esthetic expectations, medical and dental history, and radiographic and clinical conditions. Implementing this plan also depends on the selection of the appropriate temporary and definitive restorative materials to satisfy clinical and esthetic requirements. Tri-Temps temporaries offer patients beauty, natural fit, and strength while the definitive restorations are fabricated in the laboratory. Several of these advantages are demonstrated in the following case presentation.

## Case Presentation

A 43-year-old male patient presented with a chief complaint of jaw pain. Preoperative clinical evaluation and review of the articulated study models revealed that the patient had existing porcelain crowns in severely compromised occlusion and bite relation that was damaging to both the opposing dentition and the restorations.

## Treatment Plan

To prevent further wear to the dentition from the poor bite position, it was determined that a bite splint would be utilized for four weeks to reestablish a normal bite relation and to maintain proper occlusion. This would also enable the patient to become accustomed to the higher bite relation. All maxillary dentition would then be prepared maintaining the same relation as a predetermined template.

A crown lengthening procedure was performed on teeth #6 to #8. Two ceramic-fused-to-high-noble gold restorations were then selected to restore teeth #8 and #9, and preparations were completed for placement on teeth #6, #7, #10, and #11. Teeth #3 through #5 and #12 through #15 required repreparation prior to the placement of ceramic-fused-to-high-noble gold crown restorations.

## Provisionalization

Due to their combination of strength and exceptional esthetics, Tri-Temps restorations were selected for the provisional restorations. The provisional restorations were forwarded to Trident Dental Laboratories and



**FIGURE 1.** Preoperative retracted view of the patient demonstrated severely compromised occlusion and bite relation that was damaging to both the opposing dentition and the restorations.



**FIGURE 2.** Following a crown lengthening procedure on teeth #6 to #8, the Tri-Temps provisional restorations were placed demonstrating exceptional esthetics.

processed according to the bite relation specifications requested on the prescription. The Tri-Temps were also fabricated through this process, as the bite splint enabled the patient to become acclimated to the provisional restorations (ie, functionally, phonetically, esthetically) prior to placement of the definitive restorations. Following return from the laboratory, the provisional restorations were seated utilizing a noneugenol cement that provided an adequate marginal seal to ensure tissue healing and to eliminate inflammation.

The patient was scheduled for placement of the final restorations four weeks following seating of the Tri-Temps provisional restorations.

*Adriana E. Kenney, DDS, MS, maintains a private practice emphasizing esthetic and implant dentistry in Los Angeles, CA.*

# Applications for Today's Esthetics-Driven

The provisional restoration remains valuable as an essential component for the majority of restorative endeavors, and is imperative for complex or extended treatment. The provisional restoration should be considered the blueprint for the final restoration.<sup>1</sup> An inadequate temporary restoration may compromise the final results, ie, improper fit that may result in gingival irritation and discomfort, compromised esthetics and occlusion, and subsequent time-consuming remakes.

“The provisional restoration should be considered the blueprint for the final restoration.”<sup>1</sup>

Proper fabrication of the provisional restoration serves a multitude of purposes including the following:

- n adequate sealing of the margins
- n preservation of proximal and occlusal contacts
- n maintenance of the health of the dentition and the surrounding tissues
- n retaining of tooth position for the final restoration
- n uncompromised phonetics and function
- n desired esthetics

- n alterations in tooth shape or length
- n pulpal protection.

As dentists encounter an increase in the number of restorative cases, patients who demand enhanced esthetics for their provisional restorations will increase as well—especially in cases where extended treatments require long-term wear. It is essential, therefore, for the provisional restoration to satisfy the above indications to ensure precise fit, esthetics, and function of the definitive results.

## A “Permanent” Solution for Esthetic Temporary Restorations

Trident Dental Laboratories enables clinicians to provide their patients with natural-looking provisional restorations while the laboratory fabricates the final restoration.

Tri-Temps™ temporary restorations offer esthetics, strength, and durability without discoloration.



**FIGURE 1**

A 43-year-old male patient presented with unesthetic anterior maxillary and mandibular dentition.



**FIGURE 3**

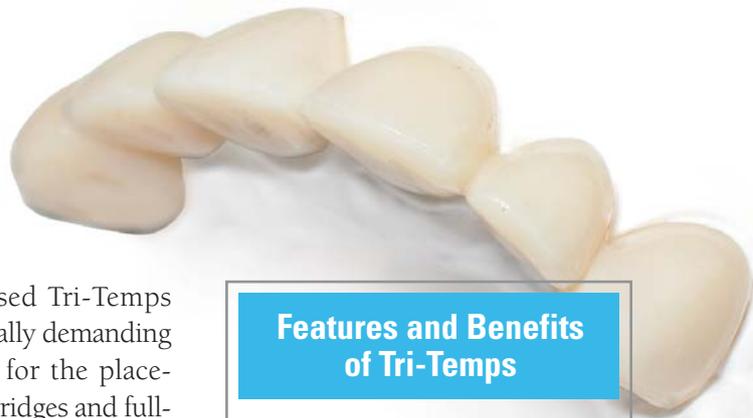
Following impression taking, the teeth were then prepared on the model.



**FIGURE 5**

Smile view following placement of the Tri-Temps restorations exhibited an improved bite relation.

# Practices



**FIGURE 2**

Retracted open-mouth view demonstrated severely compromised occlusion and bite relation.



**FIGURE 4**

The completed model enabled Trident Dental Laboratories to fabricate the Tri-Temps provisional restorations.



**FIGURE 6**

Closeup retracted view showed enhanced esthetics and biocompatibility with the gingival tissues.

Laboratory-processed Tri-Temps are ideal for esthetically demanding patients as well as for the placement of long-span bridges and full-arch restorations.

Tri-Temps may also replace a diagnostic waxup, hence, it may be utilized as a guide to case treatment. In addition, fabrication of the Tri-Temps restorations at Trident conserves valuable treatment time since the patient will not have to wait for the provisionals following teeth preparation. This cost-effective approach also reduces chairtime, enabling the clinician to treat additional patients.

### *Preparation*

At the consultation appointment, placement of Tri-Temps restorations is initiated by the fabrication of an alginate (preferred type) or polyvinylsiloxane impression as well as a bite registration or wax bite. The model will then be prepared based upon the clinician's specifications for reduction and shade selection; these requisites should be recorded on the prescription to ensure that the proper requirements are met. This procedure is performed prior to the actual case preparation, contributing to enhanced patient acceptance.

For added strength, wire reinforcement may be required for bridges of three or more units. Trident Dental Laboratories recommends cementation utilizing a noneugenol cement.

### Features and Benefits of Tri-Temps

- Cost effective
- Esthetics
- Optimal strength
- Tissue adaptation
- Available in Vita shades
- Prepped and nonprepped models can be accepted
- Utilized as a guide for case treatment
- Replaces diagnostic waxup
- Rapid turnaround time (approximately 5 days in the laboratory)

### Special Incentive Program

To confirm our confidence in Tri-Temps, Trident has developed a unique incentive program for its customers. Simply submit the Tri-Temps invoice with the final restoration case to Trident and receive a full credit on the Tri-Temps restoration. Schedule your next Tri-Temps case with Trident; the case will be handled by qualified technicians and returned to the office within five business days. See the enclosed business reply card for details or contact Trident Dental Laboratories at 800-221-4831.

### Reference

1. Lee E. Outcome-based tooth reduction: A commentary on the current literature. *Pract Proced Aesthet Dent* 2003;5(1):28.

# Branding the Practice for Restorative Excellence Through Provisional Restorations

William Blatchford, DDS

**B**randing a dental practice for restorative excellence commands a multitasking effort from the clinician as well as the staff. The clinician must designate time to build relationships with current and prospective patients, incorporate dependable materials and systems that support the dentist's vision, and employ skilled personnel who embrace this vision. In addition, the clinician and staff must deliver technical excellence as well as distinguish their esthetics-driven practice from other restorative offices.

This feat requires dental professionals to not only be cognizant of their own schedule but also that of their patients. Presenting a thorough diagnosis as well as every treatment option to patients during consultation minimizes the need to reschedule to establish a treatment plan. For example, a patient presents with periapical pathology around a failing crown restoration that requires replacement. Ideally, the clinician should achieve/garner patient acceptance of endodontic treatment and the plan for the final crown restoration at the same time. This sequence saves time as well as enhances profitability for the practice.

The provisional phase of the treatment plan offers an opportunity to achieve restorative excellence. This is accomplished by providing patients with natural-looking, functional provisional restorations such as the Tri-Temps™ system. The integration of Tri-Temps provisional restorations offers benefits for practice management as well.

The fabrication of the provisional restoration in the office requires an investment of nearly as much time as does the initial preparation. Partnering with a dental laboratory to fabricate these restorations conserves valuable chairtime.

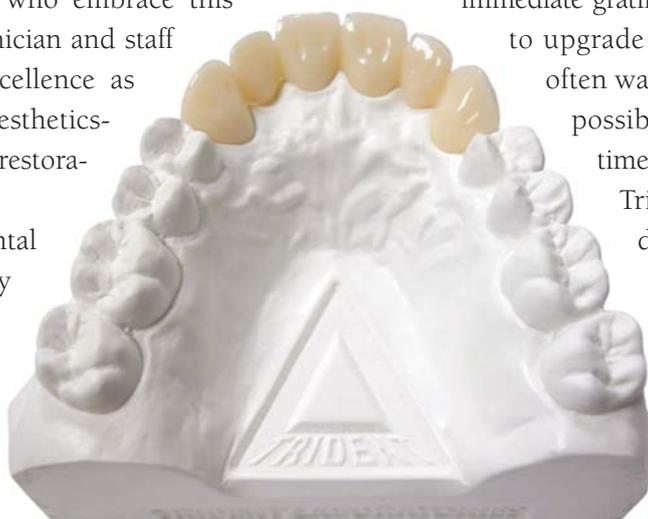
Esthetics-conscious patients, in particular, demand immediate gratification. When patients decide

to upgrade or restore their smiles, they often want it accomplished as soon as possible. With a rapid turnaround time in the laboratory (five days),

Tri-Temps enable clinicians to deliver beautiful smiles to their patients while the final restoration is being fabricated—even if treatment requires multiple specialists. The placement of Tri-Temps also encourages patients to remain motivated through-

out the treatment and to avoid discouragement when long-term therapy may be required.

Tri-Temps offer a valuable practice-building dynamic for clinicians to increase practice excellence, instill patient confidence, and ultimately, case acceptance of proposed restorative therapy.




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*William Blatchford, DDS, is the president of Blatchford Solutions in Bend, OR, a practice-management coaching program that assists dentists in practice development and focuses on opportunities to lower overhead costs, increase net returns, and renew the joys of practicing dentistry. He can be reached at 800-578-9155.*

# Expedient Processing of Tri-Temps Restorations

## Fidel Montiel

Tri-Temps restorations are suitable for a variety of clinical applications—to satisfy esthetically demanding patients and for long-span bridges and full-arch restorations. Since Tri-Temps can replace a diagnostic waxup, clinicians can conserve valuable chairtime. In addition, the following tips will expedite Tri-Temps cases through the laboratory.

**TIP 1** Full upper and lower alginate impressions/opposing model should be provided using rigid trays to reduce distortion (Figure 1).

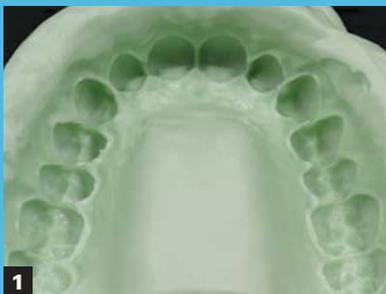
**TIP 2** A bite registration or wax bite is useful when the centric occlusion is difficult to determine (Figure 2), if there are no wear facets as a guide for articulation, for bridges without natural teeth distal to the bridge abutments, or for an open anterior or posterior bite.

**TIP 3** The model serves as a guide for tooth size and contour. Therefore, it is important to mark the desired reduction on the prescription (Figure 3) and shade selection (Figure 4).

**TIP 4** Wire reinforcement is placed in three-unit bridges or larger for added strength (Figure 5).

**TIP 5** Tri-Temps restorations are temporarily cemented using a noneugenol cement to eliminate additional steps or materials (Figures 6 and 7).

**A Trident technician is always available to answer any questions at 800-221-4831.**



**FIGURE 1**  
The full-arch model enables technicians to match the size and shape of existing dentition, as well as provide lateral and protrusive excursions.



**FIGURE 2**  
A bite registration or wax bite is useful in cases in which the centric occlusion is difficult to determine or if there are no wear facets as a guide for articulation.



**FIGURE 3**  
The desired amount of reduction is recorded on the prescription.



**FIGURE 4**  
Shade selection should also be designated.



**FIGURE 5**  
Wire reinforcement is placed on three-unit bridges or larger for added strength.



**FIGURE 6**  
Tri-Temps restorations exhibit enhanced esthetics.



**FIGURE 7**  
Cementation of the Tri-Temps restoration should be accomplished using noneugenol cement.

# TRI-TEMPS™

**Fidel Montiel**  
Diagnostics Supervisor  
Trident Dental Laboratories

