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National Prosthodontics Awareness Week is April 23-29, 2023

April 21, 2023 – National Prosthodontics Awareness Week (NPAW) is April 23-29, 2023. This is a grassroots movement to spread awareness for the specialty of prosthodontics and connect local prosthodontists with members of their community.

There are an estimated 120 million people in the United States that are missing at least one tooth. Missing even one tooth can severely impact an individual's confidence, job prospects, and overall health. Thankfully, there are dental specialists uniquely qualified to help restore these smiles: prosthodontists.

Prosthodontists are dental professionals who specialize in the restoration and replacement of missing or damaged teeth. They receive additional years of specialty training to treat patients who are missing teeth due to accidents, neglect, or congenital conditions, and they maintain and restore teeth for patients with excessive wear, esthetic concerns, or are about to undergo head and neck cancer treatment. They utilize prosthetic solutions including dental implants, dentures, and veneers to help patients improve their oral health and quality of life.

"If you had a heart problem, you would go to a cardiologist. The same is true for missing or damaged teeth," said Dr. Sergio Ortegon. "Whether it's chewing your favorite food or creating the smile of your dreams, prosthodontists are your partners in healthy, long-lasting restored teeth."

With three to four years of additional training beyond dental school, prosthodontists are prepared for even the most complex oral health care issues. Think of prosthodontist as the architect behind designing and executing your dental treatment. Whether you need to replace one tooth, or many, a prosthodontist works with you every step of the way, from consultation to follow-up care, to restore smiles, and confidence.

Dr. Sergio Ortegon is board certified in the specialty and has a subspecialty and maxillofacial prosthetics, he is a member of the American College of Prosthodontists, the premier organization representing the specialty of prosthodontics. He an adjunct professor at the University of Texas School Of Dentistry and a consultant for the Texas Children's Hospital Department of Plastic Surgery.

For more information on prosthodontics, patients can visit [GoToAPro.org](https://www.GoToAPro.org).

<https://www.implantshouston.dental/>