

Dental Implant Information

Dental implants are titanium components placed inside the bone of the jaw – they function as an artificial tooth root.

After the implants are placed, a period of healing (generally 3-6 months) is required to allow the implants to integrate into the bone.

Small posts (called abutments) are attached to the implants; crowns or dentures are secured to the abutments.

Crowns or dentures are placed by your dentist as a separate procedure, which will have a fee payable to them.

Generally two procedures are required to install the implants.

- The first procedure involves creating small holes into the bone and placing the implants. A temporary denture may be worn for a few months while the bone is growing adjacent to and bonding with the implant.
- The second procedure will uncover the implants to secure the abutment into the implant. The abutment is used to shape the gums and is what dentures or crowns are secured to
- Sometimes, the abutment can be placed at the same time as the implant.

Depending on the amount of bone present, bone grafting or other procedures may also be required prior to implant placement.

The benefits of this procedure include the replacement of missing natural teeth or to aid in supporting dentures.

Risks and Complications of Dental Implant Surgery include, but are not limited to:

- Post-operative discomfort and swelling that may require several days away from normal duties.
- Bleeding that may require additional treatment.
- Damage to adjacent teeth or roots of adjacent teeth.
- Post-operative infection that may require additional treatment including possible removal of the implant.
- Stretching of the corners of the mouth that may cause cracking and bruising.
- Restricted mouth opening for several days.
- Injury to nerve branches in the jaw or soft tissue resulting in tingling, numbness, or pain in the chin, lips, cheek, gums, tongue (including possible loss of taste sensation) or teeth.
 - These symptoms may persist for several weeks or months, and in some cases may be permanent.
- Opening into the sinus (a normal hollow chamber in the bone above the roots of back upper teeth) requiring additional treatment.
- Fracture of the jaw or of thin bony plates.
- Bone loss around the implants.
- Gum shrinkage causing a non-esthetic exposure of crown margins of teeth in the surgery area.
- Implant or prosthesis failure. Rarely, the implant or parts of the structure holding the crown may fail due to chewing stresses.
- Delayed implant failure due to chronic bone loss or infection

Consent

_____ I understand that incisions will be made inside my mouth to allow the placement of dental implants which will support crowns, bridges or dentures.

_____ I acknowledge that the procedure has been explained to my full understanding, including the number and location of incisions and implant(s) that will be used.

_____ I understand that the gum tissue will be stitched closed over or around the implant to permit healing for a period of 3 to 6 months to allow the implant to integrate into the bone

_____ I understand that the dental restoration (eg. crown, bridge or denture) will be made and placed by the referring dentist. There will be a separate charge for the restoration that will be made by that office.

_____ That office will also monitor those restorations in the future. Periodic dental visits are required for evaluation of implant performance and oral hygiene maintenance.

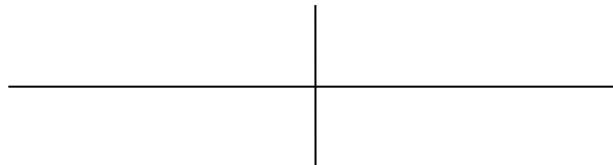
_____ In certain cases, the surgery may involve additional materials and procedures.

- Grafting with bone (from either you or from donated cadaveric bone), use of healing membranes, or other procedures to expand the volume of bone.
- The need for those procedures may not be apparent until after the surgery has begun.

_____ I understand that if a two-stage procedure is planned, the implant may remain covered by gum tissue for the initial healing period, and that a second surgical procedure may be required to uncover the top of the implant to prepare it for a dental restoration.

_____ I understand that once the treatment plan has begun, it needs to be completed on schedule. Extended delays (beyond what is planned) between steps may result in implant failure.

Implant location:



Patient signature: _____ Date: _____

Patient name: _____