

IMPLANT SUPPORTED DENTURES

Life Changing

Removable Dentures on Implants

There are many adults that are without their teeth who must wear a complete dental prosthesis. For some, a dental prosthesis is a source of discomfort even with today's' advancements in comfortable denture materials.

There are now alternatives to a complete dental prosthesis, the best being an oral implant.

What is an implant?

An oral implant is an abutment or anchor made of titanium, which is connected permanently to bone tissue. This surgical technique has been successfully used since it was invented in 1965. Initially used as a treatment for injury, and then for cosmetic reasons, it has slowly gained favour as an alternative to denture prosthesis.

It is a solution to many common denture problems such as the difficulty of chewing with loose or poorly fitting dentures, abrasions on the gums that won't heal caused by the resorption of the gum line after losing all ones teeth. Dental implants are almost as solid as natural teeth.

Usually only installed on the lower jaw, implants can also be installed on the upper jaw.

The implants are surgically inserted into the mandibular bone and your removable dentures are connected with a snap fastener allowing you to remove them for care and cleaning. The care and cleaning of your dentures is the same as what you would expect from standard denture prosthesis.

- Improved oral health
- Increased denture comfort
- Improved denture stability
- Helps prevent bone loss in the jaw
- Reduced resorption of oral tissue
- Mouth is restored to its natural state
- Superior long term aesthetics
- Enhances the natural beauty of your smile and the quality of life

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Surgery

The thought of any surgical procedure is never pleasant but there is no need to worry. The surgery is usually performed under local anaesthesia by a dental surgeon and is no more painful than a regular visit to a dentist.

Cost

The cost of implants is not generally covered by insurance. The cost is however tax deductible and therefore more affordable than most people think.

Need to know more?

Each request for implants must be carefully evaluated before proceeding. Factors such as your medical history, a clinical examination, X-rays, a prosthetic guide and a surgical guide are considered first.

Once decisions have been made as to the type of prosthesis, your dentist will evaluate and plan the number of implants, discuss the surgical procedure with the oral surgeon and plan every step in the process working as a team along with the surgeon.

Speak to a dentist to find out if implantology is right for you.

TREATMENT STEPS

The first step is the placement of titanium implants to replace lost teeth. These implants will remain covered underneath the gum for approximately 3 to 6 months. During this time, the implants will fuse with the bone in the jaw.

1



The second step involves uncovering the implants and attaching a post to each implant. This completes the foundation on which your teeth will be placed. In some instances, the oral surgeon may decide to place the posts at the time of surgery.

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TREATMENT STEPS

The final step is the placement of your new teeth by your denturist. With techniques that ensure optimal size, shape, colour and fit, your replacement teeth will blend with any remaining natural teeth.

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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

The following is a list of commonly asked questions and answers about oral implants. If there are any additional concerns which are not answered here please call the Paget Denture Clinic and a qualified denturist will get right back to you.

What are dental implants?

Dental Implants are titanium screws that are fixed solidly in the jaw by means of a surgical procedure. Dental implants provide a solid base for support and or retention of a full upper and

lower denture. Implants can also provide support for a single missing tooth to several missing teeth.

How can I benefit from dental implants?

Patients have told us that:

- a) They eat better
- b) Eat foods they have avoided for years
- c) Are more confident and comfortable when they eat
- d) They feel better about themselves

Are there any side effects from dental implants?

Allergic reaction to titanium is extremely rare, except for some anticipated discomfort due to the surgical procedure dental implants are very predictable.

Who is a good candidate for dental implants?

Those who;

- a) Are dissatisfied with loose uncomfortable dentures
- b) Wish to eat better

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IMPLANT SOLUTIONS

- c) Wish to talk and laugh with confidence
- d) Are tired of using adhesives to secure their dentures

Are there different kinds of implants?

Yes, there are several types made from a variety of materials. The four main categories are endosteal (fixed into the bone), subperiosteal (fixed on top of the bone but under the gum), intra mucosal (embedded into the gum tissue), and augmentation (where natural or artificial bone is added to the jaw).

What materials are used?

Almost all endosteal implants today are made from C.P. Titanium or its alloy, 6/4 Titanium. Subperiosteal implants generally are made from either Vitalium™ or 6/4 Titanium. Also, some implants are coated with a synthetic bone (Hydroxylapatite, HA)

What are the benefits of HA coating?

Studies have shown the HA to actively participate in the healing process. Instead of bone healing from only the bone surface, healing also occurs



Single Tooth Implant

Posterior Implants



Anterior Implants

Full Lower Implants



Full Upper Implants

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simultaneously from the HA surface. HA coated implants are recommended for areas where bone quality is limited.

How does the cost of implant overdenture compare to regular dentures?

Fees for dentures vary from Dentist to Denturist and from Denturist to Denturist. If implants are used to retain the denture, the additional investment can range widely depending upon the number of implants required and the design of the prosthesis.

How long do implants last?

Using modern techniques, and appropriate surgical and aprosthetic procedure, expected success rates are in excess of 90%. With proper hygiene habits and maintenance, implants are designed to last in excess of 5 to 10 years.

There are several factors beyond the control of both the patient and the provider that can affect the life of an implant retained prosthesis. Life style changes accidents and illnesses can have a deleterious affect. It is therefore impossible to

make promises or guarantees regarding the longevity of an implant.

Should a problem arise, it normally does so during the first six months to a year following surgery, during the period of bone healing. After this period, problems appear to be less frequent. However, follow-up by the provider and proper home care by the patient is mandatory. Life expectancy of implant retained prosthesis are similar to complete dentures or 5 to 7 years with annual inspection by a denturist.

How long is the healing period?

Reaction to the placement of implants varies from patient to patient and is directly related to the number of implants placed. Typically you can resume normal activities one to two days following surgery. In those cases where extensive surgery is performed, you may require 3 or 4 days to resume normal activity and regular relines when necessary.

Can I wear my dentures after surgery?

Yes and no. The denture will require a minor

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adjustment for the placement of a soft cushioning liner so you not disturb the healing process. The liner may require replacement every one or two months. However, we recommend not wearing the denture for at least one week after surgery and not eating with it for at least 2-3 weeks. This initial healing is very critical to the success of the osseointegration.

What are the chances of rejection?

Modern dental implants are made from the most biocompatible materials known to man, Titanium. Titanium is used in hip replacement and in pins used to hold broken bones together. There are no recorded cases of rejection. Dental implants differ from transplants of body parts, such as hearts, lungs, kidneys, etc. where an immune reaction can occur and rejection result. The possibility of infection around an implant is similar to that found around natural teeth. Good oral hygiene is a must for gum tissue to remain healthy and normal around your implant.

Where can I have my implant placed?

We will be happy to provide you with a free

examination and consultation.

Will it hurt?

Patients are told that there will be some post-operative discomfort and swelling but this will be minimal. In addition, patients are reassured that they will be provided with appropriate analgesics and antibiotics as necessary. The surgical specialist will also be available at any time to manage any complications that may occur and that the patient should call if they have any concerns.

How many kinds of dental implants are on the market?

There are over 60 dental implant manufacturers in the world. However, in our practice we only utilize implants with a proven track record that have undergone extensive animal and human studies.

Do implants feel different than my regular dentures?

Implants supported or retained over dentures are far more comfortable to wear than regular

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dentures. You can finally smile, talk, eat, laugh again, naturally, and with confidence.

What happens when a dental implant fails?

A failed dental implant will be loose and is uncomfortable when pressure is applied. Surgical specialist can remove the dental implant quite easily and a new dental implant can be re-implanted in the same area after 3 months. Reputable implant manufacturers provide guarantee replacement of failed implants.

What are the medical requirements for dental implant surgery?

Dental implant surgery is a minor procedure. If you are healthy enough to have a tooth/teeth pulled you are healthy enough to undergo dental implant surgery. Comparatively, it is less traumatic than having an impacted wisdom tooth extracted.

How much time will I have to take off work?

Mostly people recover in one or two days. We

recommend allowing three to four days for recovery. The procedure can be arranged on a Thursday or Friday, allowing the weekend for recovery.

What are the potential risks and/or complications of dental implant surgery?

The chance of complications in dental implant surgery is directly related to the amount of residue bone in the jaw. In the back part of the lower jaw, injuries to a nerve may cause numbness to that side of the lower lip either temporarily or permanently. In the back part of the upper jaw, the dental implant may cause perforation of the sinus. For some individuals who have severely resorbed jaws, there is a tendency of bruising in the chin and neck areas. The bruises usually take ten days to disappear. However, during consultation, your surgical specialist will be able to discuss these issues with you as well as ways to minimize these risks.

How long will a dental implant treatment take from start to finish?

Typically, in a lower jaw the total treatment time

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will be around 6-8 months. The upper jaw will usually take about 6-10 months. /If a bone grafting procedure is required to increase the bone volume, an additional six months will be necessary. Also recent extractions must be allowed to heal completely before implants are placed.

Does Dental Insurance or OHIP cover dental implant treatment?

No

Are there any payments plans available?

Since most dental implant treatments take a few months to complete, payments can be made by installments with no interest charged.

How much will a personal consultation cost and what is included?

The cost of a personal consultation in our office is provided free of charge. This includes a clinical evaluation, an X-ray, and a written estimate.

Is special care needed for implants?

The success of a dental implant depends on regular dental visits and meticulous oral hygiene. A healthy mouth helps ensure the best possible functioning of the dental implant.

Does implant treatment require special training for the dentist/denturist?

The construction of Implant overdentures requires special knowledge and is not practiced by every dentist or denturist.

How long does the implant surgery take?

The first phase of surgery where the implants are placed takes 2-3 hours. The second procedure to uncover the implants and attach the abutment usually takes an hour or less,

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