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Dental Implants When There Are No Teeth Present At All

One of the most exciting developments in dentistry is our ability to help people with no teeth at all. Dental implants are a solution to the difficulties people have with full dentures. Problems with chewing, discomfort, movement, speech difficulty, etc. can be eliminated. One of the most common statements made by patients, who have had implant therapy, is that their only regret is not doing it sooner!

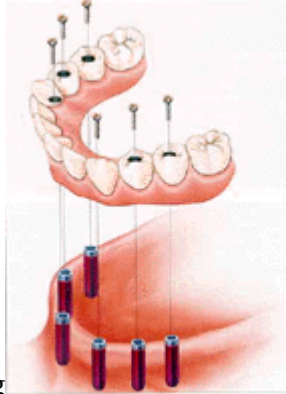
Overall general health can be improved as well. Research has found that proper nutrition is inhibited when many teeth are missing. A study published in the British Journal in 2006 concluded that people missing a number of teeth had both “dietary restrictions and nutritional deficiency.” It also showed that “having few or no natural teeth was associated with a greater risk both of being underweight and also a greater risk of being obese.” People missing many teeth just do not seem to be as healthy as those with a healthy mouth with all or most of their teeth. Dental implants will solve these problems.

One treatment option with dental implants is that after they are placed, “snaps” (attachments to hold the denture) or bars with “snaps” are fastened to the implants. Then



a denture is made which snaps in place. This type, called an implant supported denture, is removable by the patient and will greatly improve chewing ability and stability. Often the portion of an upper denture which covers the palate can be eliminated

In the second treatment option the denture can be made so it is actually fastened with titanium screws directly to the implants. This is not removable by the patient and offers



the greatest improvement in chewing and stability. There is no movement of the denture at all with this technique. This type is called a Hybrid or Fixed-Detachable Denture and patients who have them just love them.

Some patients can even have cemented crowns (caps) placed if enough implants are placed and other conditions are favorable. Just like the Hybrid Denture, there is no movement with this treatment.

Frequently Asked Questions

Are implants always successful?

Modern implant techniques have been in use since the 1965 when Professor Per-Ingvar Brånemark placed the first titanium implant in Sweden. Improvements in procedures and materials have given implants a very high success rate which is now over 95%. Implants are an accepted treatment by the American Dental Association.

Research shows that implants actually have a stronger attachment to bone than natural teeth. Dental implants can never decay but you still have to clean them to keep the gums healthy.

Is everyone a candidate for implant treatment?

In general, anyone healthy enough to undergo routine tooth extraction or oral surgery is able to receive an implant. There are some health conditions that warrant special consideration.

Will others know I have dental implants?

Today's implant treatment enables you to have your new teeth look, feel and function like your own. Even though others will be unaware you have dental implants, many patients are so pleased they tell everyone they know. Dental implants offer some of the finest restorative results possible in modern dentistry.

Is there pain or discomfort?

Many patients report implant surgery less troublesome than having teeth removed. With modern anesthesia and close attention to post operative care you can expect minimal discomfort.

Will I need to be hospitalized?

The vast majority of implant procedures are performed in the dental office with local anesthesia. Hospitalization or use of a Surgi Center may be necessary for very complex surgical procedures or general health reasons.

Will I ever be without any teeth?

As a general rule, you will never be without any teeth. If you already have a denture, when the implants are placed, you can still wear the denture. It is even sometimes possible to convert your old denture to the Hybrid (not removable) on the same day. This would then serve temporarily until the final one can be made.

If you are having all of your teeth removed, a temporary denture will be placed. If the implants are placed the same day as the teeth removal it may be possible to also make this into a temporary Hybrid Denture also.

How much does implant treatment cost?

To a large extent this is determined by what you want to achieve; how good you want it to be. The number of implants, the final design, necessary extractions, bone grafting, etc. will influence the total fee. The laboratory charge for the Hybrid or the crowns is higher than for the removable.

Implants are cost effective when taking into account the functioning life of the implant. The improvement in your self confidence, comfort, eating habits and appearance will make dental implant treatment one of the best investments you've ever made!

Some Final Thoughts

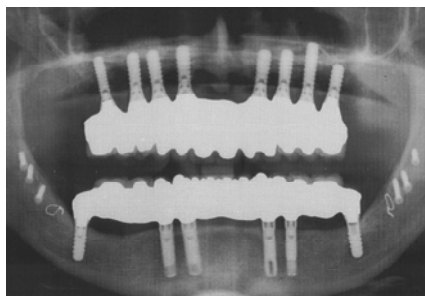
As I mentioned before one of the most common statements made by patients, who have had implant therapy, is that their only regret is not doing it sooner. They no longer have to deal with loose, bothersome dentures. They chew food better, have more self confidence. And they feel that the dramatic improvement in comfort is well worth the investment in time and money.

- Implants will give you the look, feel, and function of your natural teeth.
- Implants will enhance your appearance and self-confidence; no need to worry about smiling or speaking in public because of missing teeth.
- Implants will promote better health...natural biting and chewing. with them.

Case Examples



Old denture next to smaller implant supported overdenture.



14 implants for upper and lower hybrids.



She absolutely is thrilled with her new teeth.