

DENTAL IMPLANTS

Advantages

- Look and feel like a normal tooth
- No removable denture, clips or wires to hold the tooth in
- Each tooth can have its own foundation (case dependent) which can help with cleaning and appearance
- There is no reliance on the teeth around to support it so if work is needed on an adjacent tooth you don't have to think about replacing your implant tooth
- Multiple teeth can be replaced using dental implants
- A dental implant tooth is strong and will cope with normal eating and chewing

Dental Implants are a great way to replace one or more missing teeth. They can be used for a single missing tooth, due to trauma, decay or other reasons. Implants can also replace multiple missing teeth right up to a full arch of teeth, so as to avoid the need for cumbersome or annoying dentures.

Dental implants work by replacing the tooth root with a titanium screw which is inserted in the jaw. A crown is then attached on to the implant to give a natural, functioning tooth, similar to your original teeth.

Implants can be placed at any stage. It is ideal if we can assess the need for an implant even before a tooth is removed, but it can also be done months or years after the tooth or teeth have been lost.

Assessments are done to establish your suitability for an implant. We will look at the type of tooth needed, the condition of any remaining teeth, the condition of your bone, and the cosmetics of the final solution.



Through a consultation we can discuss your needs, take any scans for bone information and give you an indication of timeframes, costs and suitability.



An example of an implant tooth.

The information in this brochure is of a general nature, and does not provide assurance of your suitability to have implant treatment. The best course of action is to have a consult with your dentist, prosthetist or Peter Jorgensen to assist in determining if implants are right for you.



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Frequently Asked Questions

How long does it take?

From initial assessment to the final restoration can sometimes be as short as a few months to as long as 12 months. It all depends on the condition of your mouth, and the complexity of the case.

Do I have to go without teeth at any stage?

Most of the time we can arrange a temporary tooth so it always looks like you have your tooth or teeth. This can be particularly important when it's a front tooth that is being replaced. Sometimes we can screw a temporary tooth on the implant straight after surgery, and other times we will make a removable guard or denture so the space is always filled with teeth. It just depends on your particular case.

How much does it cost?

A single implant tooth costs about \$5200. This includes consult, scans, implant surgery, any temporary tooth, and the final implant crown. If you have multiple teeth missing, we often don't need an implant for every tooth and may be able to do a bridge or connected set of teeth to help reduce some of the cost. This can also help with stability.

Is there a guarantee?

Yes, implants are a very well researched and developed procedure over many years. We only use a reputable company that has a long history of research and success with their implant system. Unless you are doing the wrong things with your teeth or there are social or medical reasons you would be more likely to have problems, we do provide a guarantee with the implant work. This is best discussed at the time of the consult.

Is there any special care needed for an implant?

Once we have placed the implant, we give everyone a comprehensive set of care instructions for the initial healing. Once the final tooth is in, we explain how to care for the tooth, but we aim for you to be able to chew like you did with your original teeth.

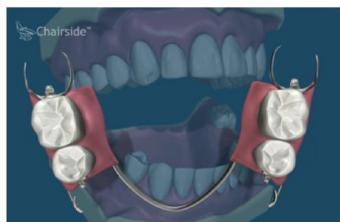
How do I find out if I'm suitable for an implant?

The best way is to contact our practice and ask for a consult with Dr Peter Jorgensen to discuss implants. The consult will be \$50 and we can hopefully answer all your questions.

Alternatives to Implants

Dentures

A denture is the quickest and simplest way to replace a missing tooth. The advantages are low initial cost and generally a short time frame to the final prosthesis. A denture would also allow you to replace multiple missing teeth with the one item, especially if the missing teeth are in different areas. The disadvantages are the extra bulk that comes with wearing a denture, the need to take it in and out, food catching underneath the denture and speech and eating challenges.



Bridges

Bridges are a wonderful way of replacing a missing tooth where there are teeth either side of the space. It is also useful where the teeth either side will benefit from crowns as well. The advantages are a shorter treatment time than implants, a bridge is still a fixed solution and doesn't need to be removed every day, and a bridge will often fix multiple teeth at once. The disadvantage is the connection of teeth together, and the need to cut down the teeth either side, especially if there is nothing wrong with the teeth around the space.

