

Denture Implants

Advantages of implants

- Dentures will hold far closer to the gums allowing you to talk, smile and chew without them falling out
- There is far less movement in the denture resulting in fewer sore spots.
- Less food gets caught under the dentures
- Patients can usually eat more of the foods they used to like.
- The placement of the implants is a fairly simple procedure normally done in the dental surgery.
- The computerized planning allows for a simpler surgery and less complications later with the clip components

Implant retained dentures are now the gold standard for patients with full dentures. Especially full lower dentures. They work by helping to anchor the denture on to the gums and stop them moving or lifting when you eat, smile, laugh or talk.

The most common usage is with 2 implants in the lower jaw to help hold a lower denture in place, but can be done with more implants in either the upper or lower depending on the needs of the patient and the individual case.

The procedure to have implants involves an initial consultation and scan of the jaw to determine your suitability. If everything is in order the planning is completed and the surgery is undertaken. This can be done either in the dental rooms or asleep in hospital depending on your preference. Following the procedure, we let the gums rest for a number of weeks to allow everything to heal and stabilize. You can continue to wear your existing denture during this time. Once we are happy the implants are tight in the bone we place the final attachments on the implants and inside the denture. The dentures can then be used as normal.

If you have an existing denture that you are happy with, you can continue to use this one with the implants and the attachments can be retrofitted to the existing denture. Otherwise your prosthetist can arrange the new denture prior to or after the implants depending on your individual case.



Peter Jorgensen B.D.Sc
Coastal Dental Implants
"Shara" 130 Alexandra Pde
Alexandra Headland Q 4572
P 07 5443 3045
F 07 5479 6699
E cdi@cjdentistry.com.au
W www.coastaldentalimplants.com.au



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

What is an Implant?

Implants are small titanium screws inserted in the jaw. They are very strong, and various attachments can be placed on top to help hold a denture.

Are they difficult to put in?

Placing an implant in your jaw is a relatively simple procedure. Most people have them placed in the dental chair. However, it can be done while asleep if desired. Most patients are happily unaware of the implants, even only a few hours after putting them in.

Is there any ongoing maintenance?

Implants and their attachments must be cleaned like any other tooth. Obviously, they can't decay, but it is important to look after the gums and jaw that hold them.

Are they expensive?

Implants will add cost to a denture. However, most people find the added cost very worthwhile as they can eat, talk, smile and laugh with confidence, knowing their teeth won't move.

Each case is different and final cost is best discussed with your prosthetist and dentist.

However, most cases involving 2 implants cost about \$7000 plus any costs of a new denture.

What do I need to do to have implants?

Following discussions with your prosthetist, an appointment can be made with Peter Jorgensen to assess suitability, time, cost and the actual procedure. X-rays and scans are used to create an ideal design in conjunction with your prosthetist.

Are there any risks that might affect me?

Dr Jorgensen will discuss any possible risks at the consultation appointment. The main risk most people worry about is the implant falling out. This only happens if the implant itself doesn't take to the bone or becomes infected. This is very rare and doesn't stop you having another placed later. The main two groups of people who are at highest risk are smokers and diabetics. However, this is best discussed with Dr Jorgensen.

Other Implant Options

Precision bar with a removable overdenture

This generally uses 4 implants and a custom designed bar to give an even firmer, tighter fit for the teeth. They can still be removed by the patient to allow for easier cleaning. The denture component can also be smaller and thinner due to the firmness of the implant bar attachment.



Fixed implant supported bridge

This uses between 4 and 6 implants and the final teeth are screwed on to the implants. They can't be removed by the patient. This is the firmest solution and aims to provide teeth that are closest in shape all round to your original teeth. This removes the need for any flanges or gum extensions as happens with a denture.



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