



Patient Education



Restoring quality to life.
Dental implants. A naturally better solution.



Dental implants: A better treatment option.

What are dental implants?

Dental implants are a safe, medically proven, esthetic alternative to traditional crowns, bridgework, and dentures. Because implant restorations look and feel more like natural teeth, they offer new levels of comfort, security and confidence over traditional treatments. For more than two decades, Zimmer® dental implants have been helping to provide quality of life to patients with restorative needs.

How do they work?

A dental implant is a small “anchor” made of titanium that is inserted into the jawbone to take the place of your missing tooth root. After osseointegration (when the surrounding bone has healed to the implant), a replacement tooth is secured to the top of the implant. This new tooth looks, feels and performs similar to your natural teeth.

What are the benefits?

Choosing dental implants as a treatment option can offer you a number of significant advantages.

- **Maintain anatomy.** If you have missing teeth, the bone begins to shrink over time. Unhealthy bone loss can make your jaw line recede and change your facial structure. Dental implants can help prevent deterioration of the jawbone so your face retains its natural shape.

- **Keep your healthy teeth.** A better long-term alternative to bridgework, dental implants eliminate the need to grind down healthy teeth when replacing one or more adjacent teeth. Your own natural healthy teeth are not compromised.
- **Security.** Securely anchored dental implants do not slip or move. This eliminates some of the key problems of dentures, including poor fit, gum irritation and pain from exposed nerves. The result is superior comfort, reliability, and freedom from embarrassment.

What is involved in the implant procedure?

The dental implant process involves several steps that take place over a time period that averages from 4 to 9 months. The typical process will include:

- **Pre-treatment consultation:** After a careful evaluation of your dental and medical health history, your practitioner will determine if you are a good candidate for dental implants. If you are, you will then have thorough consultations with surgical and prosthetic specialists before your treatment begins.
- **Initial implant placement:** Your practitioner places the dental implant into your jaw while you are under either local or general anesthesia. Over the next several months, bone will heal to the surface of the implant, anchoring it into position. Depending on your particular case, an additional minor procedure creates an opening through which your artificial tooth will emerge.
- **Implant prosthetic attachment:** During this phase, your practitioner painlessly attaches a prosthetic “post” to the implant. An impression will be taken, and soon after, an artificial replacement tooth will be created for a natural restoration.
- **Proper maintenance:** Your dental practitioner will guide you on the proper care and maintenance of your new implants before, during and after the procedure. By following a regular routine of careful oral hygiene and regular checkups, your implants will look, function and feel great for many years to come.



Single Tooth Replacement

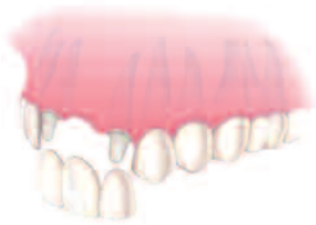
Zimmer Dental offers several different types of implants to fit your individual case. If you are missing a single tooth and currently use a removable partial denture or tooth-supported crown, an implant-supported crown may be a better alternative. Single tooth replacements look and feel so natural, typically only you and your practitioner will know the difference.

Implant-supported crowns are a naturally better solution.

- Looks, feels and performs similar to your natural tooth
- Does not compromise your adjacent teeth to support a bridge
- Preserves surrounding bone (replaces tooth root)*
- Prevents bone collapse and jaw line recession*
- Oral care same as a natural tooth
- Restores a more secure biting ability than a removable denture
- Restores self-confidence and appearance

*Claims based on previous studies and case reports

Traditional treatment options:



Tooth-Supported Crown

An alternative treatment is to cut down adjacent good teeth to support a bridge to hold the missing tooth.



Removable Partial Denture

A removable partial denture can lead to further bone and tooth loss.

Dental implant option:



Implant-Supported Crown

An implant restoration will maintain your surrounding bone and soft tissue, and replace your missing tooth with a natural-looking restoration.

Before and after clinical example:



Before implant placement, there is an unsightly space in the patient's mouth.



After implant placement, function and esthetics are restored to the patient.

**Clinical slides provided by Dr. Philippe Russe.*



Multiple Tooth Replacement

If you are missing multiple teeth, then an implant-supported bridge may be the solution for you. Unlike traditional bridgework or removable partial dentures that can slip, come loose, and cause irritation, an implant-supported bridge stays secure and strong, and won't cause problems for your adjacent teeth. So comfortable and natural, they'll look and feel just like your own teeth.

Experience new comfort and stability with an implant-supported bridge.

- Looks, feels and performs like your natural teeth
- Does not compromise adjacent teeth to support a bridge
- Preserves surrounding bone (replaces tooth root)*
- Bridge attaches securely to implants
- Prevents bone collapse and jaw line recession*
- Restores a more secure biting ability than a removable denture
- Eliminates recurrent wear around prepared teeth
- Improves appearance and self-esteem

*Claims based on previous studies and case reports

Traditional treatment option:



Removable Partial Denture

A removable partial denture can lead to further bone and tooth loss.

Dental implant option:



Implant-Supported Bridge

An implant restoration will maintain your surrounding bone and soft tissue, as well as replace your missing teeth with natural-looking implants.

Before and after clinical example:



Before implant placement, the space in the patient's mouth often prevents correct function and can be visually displeasing to the patient.



After implant placement, function and esthetics are restored to the patient.

**Clinical slides provided by Dr. Philippe Russe.*



Complete Lower or Upper Tooth Replacement

If you are missing all of your teeth in the upper and/or lower jaw and currently use a removable full denture, then an implant-supported denture could be the right solution for you. Unlike removable full dentures which can fit poorly, cause gum irritation and pain from exposed nerves, implant-supported bridges or dentures virtually eliminate slipping and movement, so there's no pain, no embarrassment, and no worries. You'll be able to laugh and speak with confidence, and enjoy your favorite foods with ease.

Experience new freedom with an implant-supported bridge or denture.

- Maintains integrity of facial structure (helps prevent further bone deterioration)*
- Increases comfort and stability
- Restores a more secure biting ability than a removable denture
- Eliminates need for adhesives
- Improves appearance (lost lip support restored)
- Builds confidence in eating and speaking more clearly

*Claims based on previous studies and case reports

Traditional treatment option:



Removable Full Denture

Removable Full Denture with no attachment for denture stability.

Dental implant options:



Implant-Retained Denture

Implant-Retained Denture provides a removable, stable denture.



Implant-Supported Denture

Fixed Implant-Supported Denture provides the patient with a non-removable, stable dentition.

Before and after clinical example:



Before implant placement, denture patient is missing all teeth and losing bone.



After implant placement, the patient has stable, restored dentition with function and esthetics.

**Clinical slides provided by Dr. Scott Ganz and Dr. Mark Adams.*

A natural, beautiful solution for confident living.

Dental implants can improve your appearance, self-confidence, and give you new peace of mind. They look and feel similar to natural teeth, and the securely attached implant can give you the confidence of eating what you like, speaking easily and clearly, and a new sense of security.

By working together with Zimmer Dental, your dental practitioner can offer you the most advanced implants and prosthetics available today. To find out if implants are the right solution for you, ask your dental practitioner for an evaluation.



“I had never heard of implants until my dental practitioner told me they were the best choice for my situation. Now I don’t know how I ever lived with dentures.”

“I was surprised at how little discomfort I felt during the implant procedures. And my new implants look and feel great.”

Treatment Recommended:

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

Notes:

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

About Zimmer Dental.

The information in this booklet was compiled as an educational service by Zimmer Dental, a company recognized as a leader in biomedical innovation in implants and prosthetics for dental implantology.

To determine if dental implants are the right treatment option for you, talk to your dental practitioner.

To learn more about Zimmer Dental implants visit www.dentalimplants4u.com

