

Dental Implants

What are Dental Implants

Dental implants can be used to replace a single lost tooth or many missing teeth.

A dental implant is a substitute for a natural root and is used to support crowns, bridges or dentures and is surgically placed into the jawbone.

The dental implant is a small screw made of titanium, metal alloys or ceramic which bonds with the jaw, and provides a stable foundation for replacement teeth, as well as preserving the neighbouring teeth and bone structure.

Who Can Have Dental Implants

You will need to have good general health then they will certainly work for you.

Ideally, you should have enough good quality bone. However, you may still qualify for implants even if you have a lost a significant amount of bone as we are able to use bone grafting to replace lost bone.

Good oral hygiene is ideal, and you will be expected to answer detailed questions concerning your medical history and you will receive a complete examination of your mouth and teeth too.

The Procedure

The procedure is usually performed in a surgery under local anaesthesia or sedation. Many patients report that having a dental implant is no more painful than having a tooth extracted.

You will experience some minor swelling and occasionally bruising afterwards, and simple painkillers can alleviate this pain. Always follow instructions from your dentist so as to prevent further complications.

The surgical procedure for placing dental implants may take from 30 minutes for a single dental implant to several hours for complex surgery:

- Dental implants are surgically placed into the jawbone.
- Gum tissue is opened to expose and prepare the bone.
- The implant is then placed, and the tissue stitched.
- The stitches are typically removed, 7 to 14 days after surgery.
- Healing process takes three to six months for the implant to become part of the lower jaw.



- When the gum tissue is ready, a special post is attached to the implant.
- A crown is made and shaded to match your existing teeth. The crown is then slipped over the post and cemented and appears as a natural tooth.

