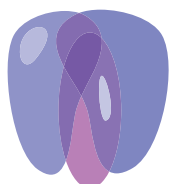


Important Information for Patients Receiving Dental Implants

1. Dental implants are a well-documented and reliable treatment option for replacing missing teeth. However, in common with every other surgical treatment, success cannot be guaranteed and dental implants do sometimes fail.
2. About 2% of implants fail to 'take' or integrate. If your implant doesn't integrate or if it fails within the first twelve months after placement, we will offer you a free replacement where this is clinically possible.
3. We do not warrant dental implants against failure due to bone loss after the first twelve months as this is highly dependent upon many factors beyond our control. A high level of cleaning around the implant as well as regular hygienist visits will help minimise the chances of inflammation, bone loss and failure of implants.
4. Inflammation of the gum around implants is not uncommon and this can lead to a condition called peri-implantitis, resulting in bone loss and eventual loss of the implant in extreme cases. The occurrence of this condition is far higher in patients who smoke, in those with periodontal (advanced gum) disease, in poorly controlled diabetics, and in those who don't maintain high levels of oral hygiene and regular hygienist care.
5. Whilst we are prepared to offer implants to smokers, we are not able to offer free replacements or any other warranty for these patients.
6. The alternatives to dental implant treatment include traditional dentures and tooth supported bridges.
7. In common with any surgical procedure, pain, swelling, bruising, infection and bleeding are possible following treatment. Bruising and swelling can be quite marked in patients who are receiving bone grafting.
8. Other possible complications include damage to neighbouring teeth, sinuses and nerves. Nerve damage is fortunately rare and can result in changed sensation or numbness which can be permanent. A slight protrusion of the tip of the dental implant into the sinus is not uncommon and usually does not cause any long term problems however occasionally it can result in chronic sinusitis.
9. We will recommend certain aids to healing following your implant treatment including use of antiseptic mouthwashes and possibly antibiotics. It is important to use these as instructed.
10. Implants are not a 'fit and forget' treatment. They must be kept meticulously clean and you will need to see a dentist or hygienist on a regular basis to maintain a high level of oral hygiene and gum health.



11. In common with conventional crowns, bridges and dentures, it is not uncommon for the bridges, crowns or dentures which are supported by implants to require repair, maintenance or replacement after a number of years. This may involve further cost to yourself.
12. If your treatment includes a removable implant retained denture please be aware that the denture contains parts which are designed to be replaced every 6-24 months. These replacement parts will incur a modest charge.
13. We will warrant the cost of any mechanical repairs or replacements for the first 24 months. This warranty does not apply to damage caused by trauma or for patients who have a history of bruxism (very heavy bites).
14. Where bone grafting has been recommended, the products normally used are of cow and pig origin. Non-animal alternatives are available on request.

Patient Declaration

I have read and understood the above information.

I have had an opportunity to ask questions and am satisfied that these questions have been addressed.

I have given a full disclosure of my medical history.

Patient name _____

Patient signature _____

Date _____

Dentist signature _____