



Dr. Natasha Rampershad



DENTAL **IMPLANTS**

Your Path to a Confident Smile.

table of Contents



1. Introduction to Dental Implants
2. Benefits of Dental Implants
3. The Dental Implant Process Overview
4. Preparing for Dental Implant Surgery
5. What to Expect
6. Aftercare and Recovery
7. Maintaining Dental Implants
8. Frequently Asked Questions
9. Conclusion
10. Contact Information

Welcome **message**

Welcome to our patient information brochure on dental implants! This comprehensive guide will provide you with essential information about dental implants, their benefits, the implant process, aftercare, and more. We hope this brochure will help you make an informed decision about dental implants and enhance your oral health.





Benefits of **implant therapy**

Dental implants are an innovative solution for replacing missing teeth.

Here are some key benefits:

1. Restored Confidence: Dental implants look and feel like natural teeth, giving you the confidence to smile, speak, and eat without hesitation.
 2. Improved Oral Health: Implants prevent bone loss and preserve adjacent teeth by providing support and stability.
 3. Long-Lasting Solution: With proper care, dental implants can last a lifetime, making them a durable and cost-effective choice.
 4. Enhanced Comfort: Unlike dentures, dental implants are securely anchored to your jawbone, eliminating discomfort and slippage.
 5. Better Speech: Dental implants restore your ability to pronounce words correctly and speak with clarity.
-



The process

Overview

1. **Consultation:** Your dentist will examine your oral health, discuss your treatment goals, and determine if dental implants are suitable for you.
 2. **Treatment Planning:** A personalized treatment plan will be created, considering factors like the number of implants required and any additional procedures needed.
 3. **Implant Placement:** During surgery, the implants are surgically placed into the jawbone. Local anesthesia or sedation ensures a comfortable experience.
 4. **Osseointegration:** Over several months, the implants fuse with the jawbone through a process called osseointegration, creating a strong foundation. This process happens on a microscopic level and most patients have no pain at all.
 5. **Abutment Placement:** Once the implants have integrated, abutments (connectors) are attached to provide a secure base for the replacement teeth.
 6. **Restoration:** Custom-made dental crowns, bridges, or dentures are fabricated and attached to the abutments, completing the implant process.
-



Preparing for Dental Implant Surgery

1. Before your dental implant surgery, it's important to follow these steps:
2. Inform your dentist about any existing medical conditions, medications, or allergies you have.
3. Attend all pre-surgical appointments and follow any instructions provided, such as fasting requirements.
4. Arrange transportation to and from the surgery, as you may experience some postoperative drowsiness.
5. If necessary, make arrangements for time off work or other responsibilities to ensure a smooth recovery.





What to Expect During Surgery

During dental implant surgery:

1. You will receive local anesthesia to ensure your comfort throughout the procedure.
2. Your dentist will make an incision in the gum tissue to expose the jawbone and place the implants precisely.
3. At various stages of implant site preparation and placement, the dentist will have to take x-rays to verify path and position of placement.
4. The incision is then closed, and you will be provided with postoperative care instructions.
5. The length of the surgery depends on the complexity of your case, but typically ranges from one to three hours.
6. In most cases non-resorbable sutures (stitches) are used so you will be advised of when to come back for suture removal.





What to expect during implant exposure

During dental implant exposure:

1. This procedure is normally carried out 2–9 months following implant placement and timing is dependent on many factors such as: implant site, patient age, medical health etc.
 2. The implant exposure visit includes a procedure where the integrated implant is then exposed and an abutment is placed so that the gum around the implant can take shape and heal to house a crown.
 3. This is also a surgical visit but is normally minimally invasive and of shorter duration than implant surgical placement
 4. The healing abutment is then left for at least 6 weeks
-



What to expect during implant crown preparation

During crown preparation:

1. The healing abutment is removed.
 2. An impression/ mould of the healed implant site is taken.
 3. Shade selection is made.
 4. The healing abutment is replaced while the crown is being manufactured.
-



What to expect during implant crown placement

During crown delivery:

1. The healing abutment is removed.
2. The crown is placed normally via screw retention, but in certain cases via cementation.
3. Your occlusion (bite) is assessed.





Aftercare and Recovery

1. Take prescribed medications as directed to manage discomfort, prevent infection, and promote healing.
2. Follow a soft diet initially and gradually reintroduce solid foods as advised by your dentist.
3. Avoid smoking, as it can hinder the healing process and increase the risk of complications.
4. Maintain excellent oral hygiene by brushing twice a day, flossing daily, and using an antimicrobial mouthwash.
5. Attend regular follow-up appointments to monitor the healing progress and address any concerns.





Maintaining Dental Implants

To ensure the longevity of your dental implants:

1. Practice excellent oral hygiene: Brush your teeth twice a day, floss daily, and use interdental brushes to clean hard-to-reach areas.
2. Avoid chewing on hard objects, such as ice or pens, as this can damage the implant or restoration.
3. Visit your dentist for professional cleanings and check-ups at least twice a year to monitor your oral health and implant stability.
4. Notify your dentist immediately if you experience any discomfort, looseness, or changes in your implant or restoration.





Frequently Asked Questions

Q1: Are dental implants suitable for everyone?

Most healthy individuals may receive implant treatment. Even when patients have a chronic illness such as hypertension, diabetes etc, so long as the issue is controlled with chronic medicine and stable, you may still safely receive implants. During the consultation visit a thorough medical history and examination is done to ensure safety and advice in this regard.

Q2: Will I experience pain during the implant surgery?

No, once the anaesthetic is administered, you should not experience any pain in the region. For more anxious patients and longer procedures conscious intravenous sedation can be arranged.

Q3: How long do dental implants last?

Implants can last 25 years and beyond as long as thorough cleaning and maintenance happens on a regular basis both at home and at the dentist every 6 months.

Q4: Can I get dental implants if I have gum disease?

Yes, but the gum disease first needs to be treated and stabilised, along with any cavities and other oral health issues identified at the examination visit.



Frequently Asked Questions

Q5: Do implants fail?

As with all procedures there is a chance of implant failure at any stage of the implant process or after. Certain conditions and circumstances have a higher chance of implant failure. Although every effort is made to meticulously plan every stage of the implant process, sometimes things don't go as planned. Your dentist will advise you if you are at a higher risk of poor prognosis for your implant. That being said there is always a solution to every problem and complications will be discussed with the patient and dealt with— with utmost urgency.



Dental implants offer a remarkable solution to restore your smile and oral health. We hope this brochure has provided you with valuable insights into the world of dental implants. Remember, consulting with a qualified dentist is essential to determine if dental implants are the right choice for you.

Dr. Natasha Rampershad





Phone or whatsapp: 0658280887

www.simplyteeth.co.za