

DENTAL IMPLANTS - YOUR MOST FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Dr. David Nelson is the Clinical Director of Cranmore Dental.



In the second installment of a new column Dr. David Nelson, Clinical Director of Cranmore, discusses the most frequently asked questions regarding dental implants.

There are many available treatment options for restoring the consequences of partial or complete tooth loss of your natural teeth. The choice of whether to select implant treatment or one of the more conventional treatments is a difficult decision. I would like to address some questions which patients ask me.

What Is A Dental Implant?

Dental implants are specially designed screws which are implanted into the jaw and act like natural tooth roots. Replacement teeth can then be attached, even dentures can be made to feel more comfortable and secure. Most studies now show a greater than 95% success rate for dental implants - so you can smile, eat and laugh again with confidence!

When Can You Use A Dental Implant?

Implants can be used in the following clinical situations:-

- 1) Single tooth replacement
- 2) Multiple tooth replacement
- 3) Edentulous cases - no teeth
- 4) To stabilize dentures

What Are The Stages of Implant Treatment?

Implant treatment can take anything from 3 to 12 months to complete. The timescale depends on the complexity of the case and whether bone grafting is required or not.

Typical Treatment Phases Include:-

- 1) Diagnosis and treatment planning
- 2) Surgical phase
- 3) Healing phase
- 4) Impressions
- 5) Fitting restoration
- 6) Recall / review

Is Everyone Suitable for Dental Implants?

Modern techniques have made it possible

for nearly everyone who is missing teeth to qualify as a candidate for implant treatment. The determining factors are a sufficient amount of quality bone, good oral hygiene and generally good health. Age is not a limitation for implant treatment provided the individual is healthy.

Benefits Of Dental Implants Over Other Treatment Options:-

- 1) Maintains the integrity of facial structures by preserving the bone.
- 2) No need to grind down healthy teeth for a bridge.
- 3) Eliminates the pain of ill-fitting dentures.
- 4) Stable replacement teeth for eating and smiling with confidence.
- 5) Closest replacement possible to natural teeth.

Why Choose Cranmore To Provide Your Dental Implants?

Cranmore's highly skilled implant team has extensive experience and regularly accepts referrals from other dental professionals in relation to all aspects of dental implant treatment. I was one of the first dentists in Northern Ireland to obtain a Masters Degree in Dental Implantology. In addition Cranmore has uniquely been approved as the Clinical Training Centre in Ireland for the University of Central Lancashire Institute of Postgraduate Dental Education Masters Programme in Implant Dentistry.



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