

DENTSPLY Implants — implants for life



Do you suffer from the physical discomfort associated with missing teeth?

Do you have difficulties eating or speaking clearly due to the loss of these teeth? If so, implant-supported bridges may be the solution for you.

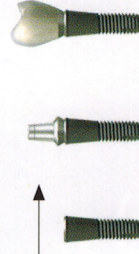
Historically, partial tooth-supported bridges or clasp-retained removable dentures have been the treatment solution for multiple tooth loss. An implant-supported bridge eliminates the need for harmful clasps as well as the grinding of healthy adjacent teeth for supporting a bridge. Dental implants act as replacement tooth roots, providing a stable foundation for replacement teeth that function just like natural teeth so you can eat, speak and smile with confidence!

Parts of a dental implant

An abutment on top of the dental implant

The dental implant with a crown

Dental implant in actual size



Treatment procedure

1. A thorough examination

The first step of dental implant therapy is a discussion with your dentist, followed by a thorough dental examination. The jaw is X-rayed to check the condition of the bone tissue and to determine the placement of the dental implants. An impression is made of the jaw and existing teeth, forming an important platform for the treatment planning.

2. Inserting the dental implants

There are two options for dental implant placement, depending on your clinical situation. In a one-step procedure, the dental implants are placed and then temporary abutments are attached. In a two-step procedure, the dental implants are inserted and then covered by the gum, and left to heal. The abutments are attached at a later date (see next side).

In both cases, a temporary bridge is put in place, followed by a maximum healing period of three months for the lower jaw, and six months for the upper jaw. In some cases, the dental implants can be loaded immediately. However, this depends on your bone condition.

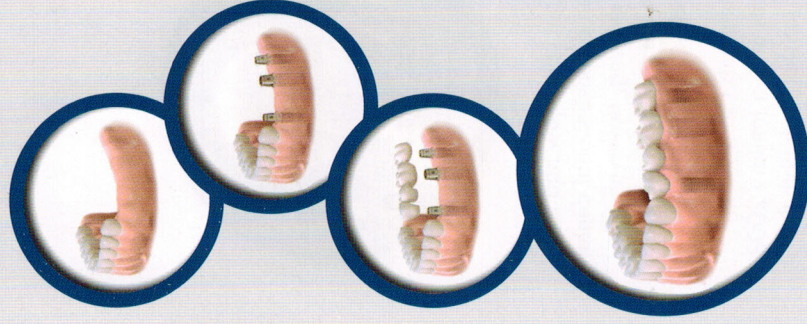
3. Attaching the abutments

In a one-step treatment, the temporary abutments are replaced by permanent ones after the dental implants have bonded with the bone tissue. The second part of a two-step procedure involves making a minor incision to open the gum and put the abutments in place. When the abutments are in place, a new impression is made.

4. Fitting and re-examination

When the bridge is ready, your dentist simply attaches it to the dental implants. This is usually followed by a few follow-up visits to check functionality and esthetics. That's all there is to it, and it is virtually impossible to see the difference between the existing teeth and the new teeth.

1. Some people lose teeth in the rear of the mouth. This is typically caused by gum infection (periodontitis) or by a tooth cracking due to previous fillings.
2. Between two and four dental implants are installed for a dental implant bridge. Implant-supported bridges eliminate the need for healthy adjacent teeth to be ground down to act as support.
3. Abutments are attached to the dental implants. The next step is to fit a bridge; the new set of teeth is placed on the abutments.



4. The dental implant bridge is now in place and can withstand the strong chewing forces that occur in the rear of the mouth. In fact, it feels and functions like natural teeth.