



## **Jenkins Dental**

### **PATIENT INFORMATION FOR IMPLANT TREATMENT**

#### **What is a dental implant?**

An implant can be thought of as an artificial tooth root (usually a small titanium screw), which when carefully placed in the jaw integrates fully with the bone – the dental implant becomes part of your jaw. The implant is then used to support one or more specially constructed crowns, bridges or very secure dentures. Implants can also be used to replace one or all of your teeth in the case of a full mouth reconstruction by the placement of 6 – 10 implants in each jaw and bridgework.

#### **What are the advantages of dental implants?**

Dental implants are a permanent solution to missing teeth. They can improve your ability to smile, speak and chew food without embarrassment. They can also bring back the contours of your cheeks so that you do not get a sunken appearance (ptosis) that can develop when teeth are missing. By giving your lips and cheeks greater support it is possible that wrinkles and marionette lines can be reduced. If your priority is wrinkle reduction than a combination of implants, botox and fillers may be required. Placing dental implants can also prevent other problems, which can occur after tooth loss. These problems include movement of other teeth; difficulty in chewing causing damage to the jaw joints; harder to clean remaining teeth; bone loss; over eruption of teeth opposite the missing teeth can lead to further tooth loss.

#### **Are dental implants safe? How long will they last?**

The placement of dental implants is a well-established surgical procedure in which Philip is very experienced. Over 90% of modern implants last over 15 years. Dental implants are now frequently the recommended solution to missing teeth.

#### **I have some of my own teeth. Can I still have implants?**

Yes. You can have any number of teeth replaced with implants, from a single tooth to a full mouth reconstruction where up to 10 implants and bridgework can be used to replace your teeth.

#### **Do I need an implant for each missing tooth?**

No, unless you're only having a single tooth replaced. Normally, five or six implants can be used to replace all the teeth in one jaw. Each implant can usually support two teeth. Philip will best advise you on the number of implants recommended.

#### **Can implants always be used to replace missing teeth?**

Implants cannot always be placed where teeth are missing, a number of factors must be considered including the quantity, quality and density of the bone in your jaw. We

will arrange a series of tests to assess the surrounding bone. It is common for bone to be taken from another area of the mouth (a procedure known as ‘bone grafting’) if there is insufficient bone or if the bone is unhealthy.

### **Is the procedure of placing dental implants painful?**

No. Placing the dental implants is a surgical procedure, which can be carried out under local anaesthetic. Great emphasis is placed in ensuring you have a comfortable and painless surgical procedure. As with all surgical procedures, some discomfort may be felt during surgery and the following weeks. This is part of the normal healing process.

### **Can I have new teeth straight away?**

Unfortunately not. The implants need to fuse (integrate) with the bone after they have been placed. We may need to provide you with a temporary restoration during this period of time. If you have complete dentures, then these can be worn throughout the healing period after they have been adjusted.

### **How long does treatment take to be fully completed?**

Each case is unique and depends on the number of implants. One implant can take approximately 3 months and up to 12 months may be required for a full mouth reconstruction. From the initial assessment to the time when the artificial teeth or dentures are finally attached to the fully integrated implants. Philip will be able to provide you with a time scale for each phase of the treatment.

### **Are dental implants difficult to clean?**

Cleaning teeth that are attached to implants is no more difficult than cleaning natural teeth. The long-term success of implants will depend on good oral hygiene and regular examinations with your dental surgeon and hygienist.

### **What happens if the dental implant does not fuse (integrate) with the jaw bone?**

This is a rare occurrence. If the implant becomes loose during the healing period or just after, then it is easily removed and healing takes place in the normal way. Once the jaw has healed, another implant can be placed.

### **How are dental implants used with dentures?**

The denture clips onto the implants making it very stable compared to a conventional denture. Another benefit of using implants with dentures is that there is no need for the denture to cover the roof of the mouth.

### **How much do dental implants cost?**

It is difficult to give general fee guides but here are some examples with all of the different chargeable consultation procedures brought together.

Single tooth implant	From £2100
Implant supported lower denture (2 implants & denture)	From £3200
3 Unit bridge (2 implants & bridge)	From £4000

No two patients ever present with the same problem. We will ensure that you have a written personalised treatment plan and **estimate** of all the costs involved before you

decide whether or not implants are right for you. Given the complex nature of implant treatment it is difficult to give precise costings at the outset. We will always endeavour to keep costs to a minimum without ever compromising your care or smile!

### **What are the different stages involved?**

**Initial consultation** Initial planning and assessment is very important. At your first appointment Philip will spend 30 minutes with you outlining what can be done to restore the tooth and tissue loss – discussing your individual requirements. Fee £75.

**Second consultation** Diagnosis and Planning. Discussion and presentation of possible treatment options, based upon the records taken at the first visit. You will have the opportunity to express your wishes and expectations of any proposed treatment. If you have any photographs, for example, before loss of teeth occurred, you may find it useful to bring them to this appointment. Impressions for study models, x-rays and photographs will be taken along with any other necessary records. A personal written treatment plan and associated fees will then be sent to you. Once acceptance and consent forms are signed an appointment can then be made for the next stage. Fee £250.

**Surgical Treatment** The surgical phase is when the implants are placed in the jaw using local anaesthetic. The fee is from £1050 per implant placed.

**Restorative Treatment** 6 to 12 weeks after the surgery the bone will have formed a strong bond with the implant and this provides the foundation for attaching the crown or denture (restoration), to replace missing teeth. Costs at restoration phase are from £1050. This amount depends on the type of restoration required to restore your smile. Your individual treatment plan will give detailed estimates for all aspects of your implant treatment.

**Post-operative care** It is essential that the verbal and written post operative instructions are followed carefully. The non-surgical recall and maintenance visits form an important part of the overall treatment plan. Fee £50 per visit.

We strongly believe in ensuring that you are fully aware of all the clinical steps and their associated costs before you commit to implant treatment so please do not hesitate to discuss any aspect of your proposed treatment with us. Contact us on 01458 442036 if you require any further advice.