

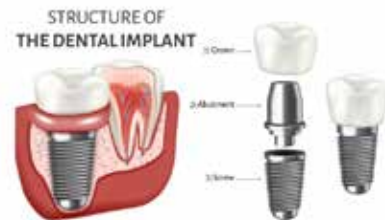
## DENTAL IMPLANTS

A dental implant is a small post, usually made of titanium, that serves as a substitute for the root of the tooth. It resembles a screw and is surgically placed into the jawbone. A connector, known as an abutment, attaches to the top of the dental implant. Finally, a crown (replacement tooth) is custom fabricated to match your natural teeth and connected to the abutment.

The term “**dental implant**” may also be used to describe a post, abutment, and crown all combined.

### IMPLANT SURGERY

Dental implant surgery generally takes 45 minutes for one implant and several hours for multiple implants. We will make a small incision in the gum tissue and precisely place the implant into the jaw bone. We will place sutures, if necessary.



When the surgery is complete, a small healing abutment or cover screw will be visible above the gumline. The cover screw allows the surgeon access to the dental implant body and will allow the team to evaluate the health of your dental implant.

### OSSEOINTEGRATION CONFIRMATION

Three months after dental implants are placed, we will confirm that osseointegration (oss-ee-oh-in-tuh-GRAY-shun) is complete. Once we've confirmed that bone and implant have fused, you'll be ready to begin the restoration process.



### DIGITAL SCANS

In most cases we use high resolution digital scanners to take digital “impressions” of your mouth. The scanners we use are fast, painless, and highly precise.

### FABRICATION

Using these digital scans, and working closely with our dental lab, we'll create abutments and crowns that fit perfectly and look completely natural.

# PLACEMENT OF ABUTMENTS AND CROWNS

Our process ensures that your new tooth looks, feels and functions like a natural tooth. We ensure that the shade of the tooth is customized just for you, the abutment is customized to support the gum tissue in the area to prevent food or plaque getting trapped in the area (unlike a stock abutment which a lot of other practices use), and it feels like it fits right into your natural bite so you have no eating restrictions.

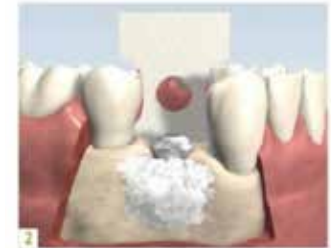
## STEPS & TIMELINE

1. Implant consultation and cone beam scan (3D x-ray)
2. Extractions (if needed) may be done any time after the implant consultation. Minutes after extraction, the area is grafted to preserve the site for the upcoming implant.
3. Implants can sometimes be placed during the same appointment that any extractions are performed, which can reduce the restoration process by 2-3 months. However, if grafting was needed, the area must heal for 3 months before an implant may be placed. Options are available for temporary tooth replacement during the healing process.
4. 3 months later, we take digital impressions from which your crown(s) and abutment(s) are fabricated.
5. 3 - 4 weeks later, the abutments and crowns are complete and ready for placement.

## IMPLANT PLACEMENT AND SIMULTANEOUS BONE GRAFT



Implants need to be anchored in the jaw bone like natural teeth – in some cases additional bone is needed.



Straumann bone grafting material can be placed to help your body develop new bone to support an implant.

Dental implant crowns are designed to be either screwed or cemented onto the abutment.



## IMPLANTS VS. OTHER TOOTH REPLACEMENT

### PROS

- Feels, looks, and functions like your natural teeth.
- Strong and stable.
- No eating or speaking restrictions.
- No need for messy adhesives.

### CONS

- Slight possibility of implant failure or rejection.
- Cost more than traditional or snap on dentures.