

BENEFITS OF DENTAL IMPLANTS

- Improve appearance and self-confidence
- Prevent bone loss associated with missing teeth
- Save remaining teeth from invasive procedures (conventional fixed bridges)
- Increase chewing ability and improve bite force
- Decrease denture mobility

FIND A PROSTHODONTIST TODAY

Prosthodontics is one of nine American Dental Association recognized dental specialties and is the only specialty that deals specifically with the replacement of missing teeth. As such, prosthodontists are recognized as the tooth replacement experts and are especially well-prepared to work with you in the process of considering the most appropriate options for replacing one, a few or all of your teeth.

See a prosthodontist today. The American College of Prosthodontists offers the No. 1 referral directory for locating a prosthodontist in your area. Search by geography or procedure.

The ACP's mission is to improve the quality of life through the advancement of prosthodontics.



211 E. Chicago Ave.
Suite 1000
Chicago, IL 60611
312.573.1260
800.378.1260
www.gotoapro.org

compliments of

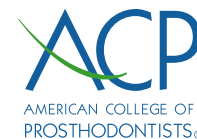
© 2008 American College of Prosthodontists

boost your confidence



A HEALTHY SMILE FOUNDATION

Significant tooth loss is not uncommon. More than 35 million Americans are missing all their teeth and many are missing at least one tooth. Dental implants have become the standard of care for the replacement of teeth. They allow your mouth to be restored to optimum function and appearance without invading or damaging other teeth or tissue.



SETTING THE STAGE

A little thing like a tooth can make such a difference. Many adults who don't do anything to replace their missing teeth suffer poor self-esteem, premature aging, poor diet, loss of function and social embarrassment. Today's solutions utilizing dental implants and a prosthodontist's expertise can change all that. The right dental treatment and a specialist's care can change your smile and your life.

What are Dental Implants?

Dental implants are metal cylinders made of titanium surgically placed in the jawbone where teeth are missing. They replace the roots of missing teeth and support single crowns, large bridges and dentures. State-of-the-art technology makes it possible for these replacement teeth to look, feel and function like natural teeth.

Whose Smiles Can Be Helped?

If you are missing one or more teeth, a restoration supported by a dental implant and/or implants is an option you must consider. In many instances it provides the best alternative for care.



TREATMENT PLAN

Diagnosis and Planning – In addition to a routine dental exam, an analysis of your gum and jawbone, along with impressions and study models, will be performed by your prosthodontist who leads the way in determining the appropriate method of treatment.

Surgery – A dental implant is placed in the bone and normally allowed to heal from six weeks to six months. Typically a minor surgical procedure, the implants can sometimes be placed at the time of tooth extraction. Please consult with your prosthodontist.

Restoration – Following adequate healing, the implants are restored as needed with crowns, bridges or dentures.

Maintenance – Patients are recalled on a regular basis to re-evaluate and maintain the implants and restoration.

Do Implants Last?

Unlike natural teeth dental implants are not susceptible to dental disease such as decay; however, the health of the gums is vital to maintaining lasting implant success. Conscientious home care by the patient and regular professional cleanings and check-ups are essential elements for dental implant sustainability. Each patient is different, and success relies upon diagnosis and planning, medical history and a variety of other factors.

EXPERT RESULTS

Research your options for cosmetic or reconstructive dental work before making a decision to ensure the best possible care. As an American Dental Association recognized specialist, prosthodontists expertly restore and replace teeth by:

- Training three additional years in an ADA-accredited graduate program after completing dental school.
- Quarterbacking the dental treatment plan. They regularly lead teams of general dentists, specialists and other health professionals to develop solutions to your dental needs.
- Creating generations of beautiful, healthy smiles by providing the highest level of dental care.

