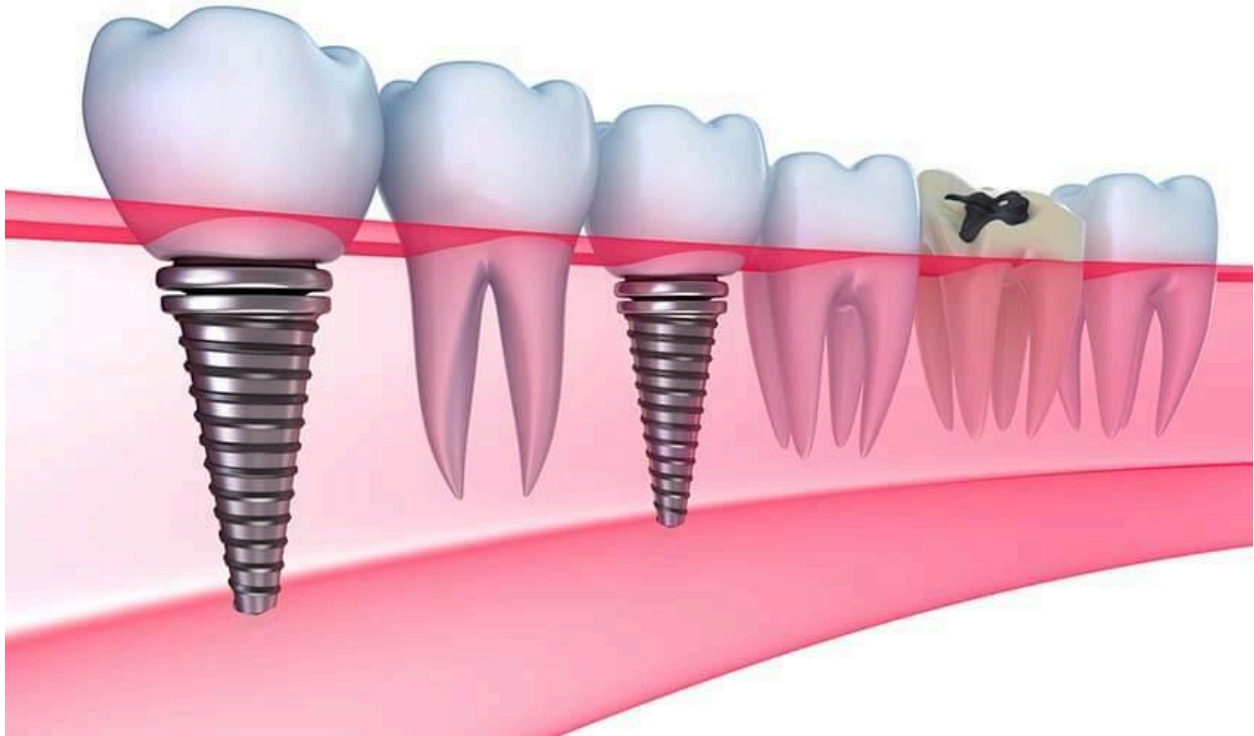


Implant Dentistry



Hilton Head Island & Bluffton: Dental Implants Can Create A Huge Confident Smile

Dental Implants answers your questions: Are you too self-conscious to smile big or to speak because you are missing a tooth or teeth? Are you experiencing poor eating habits due to loss of teeth? If so, you may be a candidate for a dental implant.

Dental implants are artificial tooth roots used to support a restoration for a missing tooth or teeth, helping to stop or prevent jaw bone loss. The implantation procedure is categorized as a form of prosthetic (artificial replacement) dentistry. Implants are also used for cosmetic purposes. By replacing missing tooth roots, **Dental Implants** provide strength, stability and appearance.

To determine if implants are right for you, a consultation appointment should be scheduled at Off Island Dental Care. During this appointment, our dental professionals will thoroughly examine your teeth and gums and evaluate bone density and quantity.

This will most likely involve digital X-rays and an oral scan with CAD/CAM technology to ensure there is sufficient bone structure for placing the implant(s), and to determine exactly where they should be placed. Depending on your situation, we will advise you of how long the entire treatment process will take, how many appointments will be necessary, the cost, and what you can expect after each procedure.

Dental Implants in Bluffton, Hilton Head and Okatie



Today's dental implant restorations are virtually indistinguishable from other teeth. This appearance is aided in part by the structural and functional connection between the **Dental Implants** and the living bone.

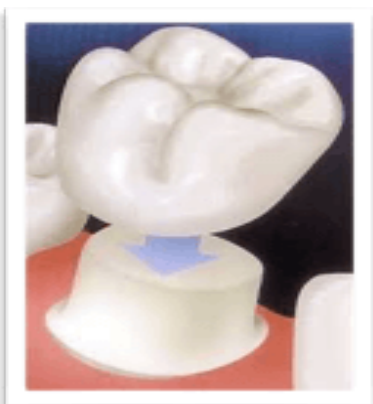
Osseointegration is the process by which the implant anchors to the jaw bone. A successful osseointegrated implant takes anywhere from three to six months to anchor and heal.

Preparing The Jaw for Implantation: a pilot hole, which is small in diameter, is drilled where the tooth is missing and into the jawbone. It takes great skill from the dentist when performing this oral surgery.

It is important not to damage the jaw and face structure, so the expertise is vital. The aforementioned step has prepared that pilot hole for the implant screw.

The titanium screw serves as a vessel, known as the implant. The gum tissue is then secured over the implant with stitches. Alternatively, a cover for the screw may be placed, known as the healing abutment. This allows the site to heal.

Dental Implant Placement



The next visit is when it is likely that the dentist will uncover the implant. The next step is to attach what is known as the healing abutment, if it hasn't already been placed. An

abutment serves as a place to allow the future impression of the dental crown by pushing back the gum tissue.

Depending on the situation, a temporary crown may be placed until healing is formed. The last stage of the dental implant process is to fabricate a dental crown for the implant. The dental crown becomes the template to which the gum will continue to grow and shape.

Your Dental Implant Aftercare

Once an implant has been placed, maintaining good oral hygiene habit is required to ensure proper fusing with bone structure. **Dental implants** look and feel like natural teeth. It will be important to clean them as you would your natural teeth to ensure the best possible healing and fusing.

After the initial surgical procedure, discomfort should be at a minimum. We will provide you with complete instructions regarding medication, food, drink and other preparations you may need. In addition, cleaning and maintenance instruction for your **Dental Implants** will be provided.

Please call our office should you have any concerns. With good home care and routine hygiene visits, your implant will have longevity and look beautiful!

Off-Island Dental Care

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Visit us here: <http://www.offislanddental.com/>

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