

# Dental Implants – Frequently Asked Questions – StarBrite Dental, Fremont, CA

## Teeth Implants - Dental Implants

**Patient Review 2:** posted: 04/08/2008 8:22 PM

When my daughter broke her tooth in a fall, our local dentist referred us to a dentist who could do the implant she required. The price was so high, and we knew little of the procedure, so we decided to do a little research. We went to UCSF as part of the search for information. We discovered Dr. Lokhandwala from her internet site. After a phone call speaking directly with her, we realized she was among the most knowledgeable dentists around. The fee was less than all of the others.

We come from Walnut Creek, because we believe she is the best dentist with the best staff. Every question or concern is answered clearly so that we can understand. You can trust everyone in that office.

**About Hygienist:** We always receive competent service from a considerate hygienist. You can be assured your comfort is their concern.

Treatment Length with Dr. Lokhandwala: about two

Facilities: ★★★★★  
Service: ★★★  
Painless: ★★★★★  
Results: ★★★★★  
Cost: \$

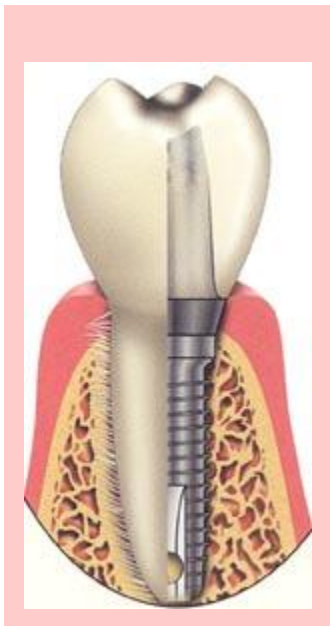
## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ) ON DENTAL IMPLANTS

What is a dental implant?

A dental implant is a small titanium fixture that serves as the replacement for the root portion of a missing natural tooth. The implant is placed in the upper or lower jaw. It will bond with the bone over time and thus serve as an anchor for the replacement tooth. Dental implants can be used to replace a single lost tooth or many missing teeth.

To see how implants are used to treat missing teeth [click on the following links:](#)

1. [Missing one tooth](#)
2. [Missing several adjacent teeth](#)



3. [Missing all teeth on the upper or lower jaw](#)

4. [Mini-implants for Denture Stabilization](#)

Are dental implants successful?

With more than three decades of clinical experience and over a million patients treated, crowns and bridges supported implants are highly successful. Statistics from one Implant manufacturer (Nobel Biocare) confirm a success rate of nearly 95 percent for individual implants\* – even higher for the bridges they support. Dental implants placed in their first patient 35 years ago are still functioning-today.

\* Results based on implants and bridges remaining and in function over a five-year period.

#### **Patient Review 7:**

I looked all over the Bay Area for a dentist with experience with mini implants for dentures. I was sure these finally end her denture pain. I found StarBrite Dental. Dr. Munira made my mother comfortable and assured even though my mom does not speak great English. Dr. Munira and her staff made sure the dental implants and dentures were a perfect fit. My mother was so happy that she hugged Dr. ? (in charge of dentures) and she would have done the same for Dr. Munira had she not been with another patient. I took my mom out to dinner for mother's day and she had tostadas and salad both of which would have been impossible before going to the StarBrite dental office.

How much do implants cost?

The fee for tooth replacement with dental implants will depend on several factors, including the number of teeth being replaced and the number of implants required to support your replacement teeth. There are some extra costs if additional procedures are required prior to the placement of your dental implants to ensure the long-term health of your dental implants. Typically, there is a fee for the surgical procedure and a separate fee for attaching the posts and constructing your replacement teeth. To obtain a specific fee estimate, it is necessary to have a doctor examine your specific case and needs. After a thorough diagnostic examination, your dentist will recommend the treatment that is best for you. Typically, single implants cost more. If multiple implants are placed at the same time, the per implant cost will reduce substantially.

[Click Here for information on Costs of Implants](#)

**StarBrite Dental offers a FREE Implant consultation. To schedule an appointment call us at 510-795-7786 or visit our [website and send an online appointment.](#)**

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Why choose StarBrite Dental and Dr Munira Lokhandwala ?

Dr. Lokhandwala is certified in placing dental implants and has acquired training and experience under well-known experts from all over the world. We use various reputed implant suppliers, including Nobel Biocare. These implant products are at the very forefront, providing efficient treatment procedures, excellent function and high esthetic outcome.

WHO IS A CANDIDATE ? CAN I GET IMPLANTS ?

Will dental implants work for me?

Anyone who is missing one or more teeth due to injury, disease or decay may be a candidate for dental implants. **The main limitation is the amount of available bone.** Your dentist is the best person to evaluate whether dental implants are a viable solution for you. If an adequate quantity of bone is not available at the implant site, a bone graft may be necessary.

Is old age a problem?

Occasionally, older patients express concern that their age may prevent them from enjoying the benefits of dental implants. However, health is more of a determining factor than age. If you're healthy enough to have a tooth extracted, you're probably healthy enough to receive dental implants. Certain chronic diseases may contraindicate implant treatment. Your dentist will determine if you are a candidate for dental implants after a careful evaluation of your dental and health history.

## WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OVER TRADITIONAL TREATMENT

What are the advantages of dental implants over dentures or a bridge?

- **Improved appearance:** When you lose entire tooth – crown and root – shrinkage of the jawbone may cause your face to look older. Dental implants can stop this process. A traditional dentures or bridges don't avoid such changes from occurring.
- **Maintained natural teeth:** With traditional practices, two teeth adjacent to a missing tooth must be ground down to anchor a bridge. Dental implants often eliminate the need to modify healthy teeth.
- **Permanent solution:** There are no loose parts to worry about. The implant is stable and comfortable. No adjustment is need after installation. Normally, it will serve its owner for life.

## WHAT CAN I EXPECT FOR RESULTS ?

How will dental implants affect my life?

Implant-supported replacement teeth look, feel and function like natural teeth. This means that you can eat and drink whatever you are used to. You can continue smoking as well, if you must. But most importantly, dental implants often improve quality of life in a very concrete way. People who have felt embarrassed and worried because of their teeth problems are often overwhelmed by what new permanent teeth can do for their self-esteem.

Will my new teeth look natural?

When dental implants are used in combination with modern restorative dentistry, their appearance, comfort and function are very likely to exceed your expectations. Your new teeth will be virtually indistinguishable from your original teeth.

Will I be able to chew with the same force and pressure I use with my natural teeth?

Yes. Following a brief adaptation period during which your mouth and jaw get used to the new tooth which was earlier either missing or decayed, the chewing capacity is comparable to that of natural teeth.

## WHAT HAPPENS IN THE TREATMENT AND HOW DO I CARE FOR MY NEW IMPLANTS ?

Is the treatment painful?

Just as with any surgery, there can be some slight discomfort. Anesthesia and patient sedation are used to eliminate any discomfort at the time of the procedure. Most patients report that they were much more comfortable following the procedure than they had ever anticipated. We would prescribe medications to ease any discomfort if it may occur. Personal experiences of other patients who have had tooth implants are listed on our website.

How much time is required for an implant placement?

Traditionally, the procedure has been performed in two steps. The dentist began by installing the implant, which was left for from three to six months to heal and integrate with the jawbone. During the healing period, the patient was given a temporary prosthesis until the permanent crown could be put in place.

Today, there is an alternative to the two-step method that allows you to have the implant installed in one whole piece in one single session. This new method has simplified the procedure a lot, both for patients and dentists.

The procedure is chosen depends on several factors, such as the patient's dental health, the number of teeth involved and which teeth are replaced. These factors will also determine the total number of visits to the dentist throughout the treatment period.

How will I feel after the treatment?

It is normal to have some small bruises and swelling in the gum and soft tissues. But usually the discomfort, if any, is treated with an ordinary painkiller. You should expect to be able to work the next day.

How will I care for my implants?

Your new teeth must be cared for and checked regularly, just like your natural teeth. Brush and floss as recommended by your dentist or dental hygienist. See your dentist every six months, or more frequently if so advised.