

Healthy Smile Tips

- Avoid brushing surgical area, use the ultra-soft toothbrush.
- Clean between your teeth once a day.
- Eat a healthy soft diet and limit snacks.
- Visit the dentist at your appointment.

For more information about taking care of your mouth and teeth, visit the hospital's website,

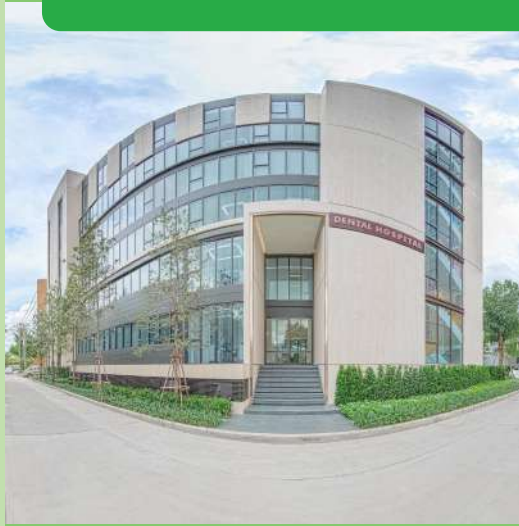


www.dentalhospitalbangkok.com

DENTAL TREATMENT

Dental Implant:

Are they an option for you?



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Dental implants replace natural missing teeth.

Dental implants are posts surgically placed into the upper or lower jawbone. They replace one or more teeth that are next to each other. Implants are an effective way to replace missing natural teeth. When teeth are lost because of disease or an accident, dental implants may be a good option. You may want to choose dental implant if:

- You hide your smile because you have missing teeth
- Your dentures are not comfortable
- You are not happy with your removable partial dentures
- You do not have or do not want your other teeth to anchor a bridge restoration

People may choose implants to replace a single tooth, more than one tooth, or to support a full set of dentures. The single tooth implant is placed by surgery in the jaw where the missing tooth's root(s) had been.

Dental implants are made of titanium alloy and are roughly shaped like the root of one of your teeth. Titanium is used because your body will accept it, meaning it is biologically safe. This means the chance of an allergic reaction is incredibly small. Most people, when they talk about dental implants are actually talking about the teeth attached to the implants. The implants themselves are generally hidden beneath or at gum level.

A dental implant is the next best thing to the real thing.

Nothing is as good as your natural teeth, but dental implants can come close. Implants have been used for many years. They are man-made "anchors" that look like screws and are made of titanium and other materials that are compatible with the human body.

An implant looks and acts like a natural tooth. It fits securely even when you chew and speak. A single tooth implant does not involve treatment to your other teeth.

Benefits of Dental Implants

- **Implants won't slip or shift in your mouth.** This is very important for eating and speaking normally.
- **Implants feel more natural** than removable partial or conventional complete dentures because of their secure fit.
- **A single tooth implant is a stand-alone unit** and doesn't involve treating the teeth next to it.
- **Implants help to preserve the bone** after teeth are lost or removed.
- **Implants are a good value.** They may seem like a more expensive option at first, but they can last a lifetime if you take good care of them.



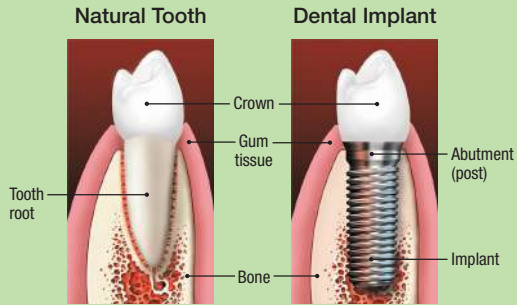
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Single Tooth Implant

A single tooth implant replaces the missing tooth's roots. It is a stand-alone unit and does not involve treating the teeth next to it.



If you are missing one or more teeth, there are many reasons why you should replace them:

- You may not like how the gap looks when you smile.
- Missing teeth may affect how you speak.
- A missing back tooth (molar) can make it harder to chew.
- When a tooth is lost and not replaced, the teeth around it can shift. Shifting teeth can affect how you bite and chew.
- Bone loss may occur in the area of the missing tooth or teeth. This may cause the remaining teeth to become loose over time.
- Loss of teeth and bone can make your face sag. You may look older.

Implant-Supported Bridge

An implant-supported bridge replaces the lost natural teeth and some of the tooth roots when more than one tooth is missing. Unlike traditional bridges, an implant-supported bridge does not need support from the teeth next to it.

Implant-Supported Bridge



Missing teeth



A bridge is placed on implants



After the bridge is placed

Steps of Placing an Implant

Treatment will depend on your personal case and can take only one day, several months, or somewhere in between.

1. Placing the implant

The dentist will use x-rays or CT Scan to carefully find where the implant should be placed. Then, they surgically place the implant into your jawbone. You may have some swelling and/or tenderness after surgery.

2. Healing process may take several months

The reason why an implant is so strong is because the jawbone grows around it and holds it in place. Some patients might need to wait up to several months until the implant is completely healed before replacement teeth can be attached to the implant.

3. Placement of the replacement tooth or teeth

The dentist makes a new tooth or teeth attached to the implant posts that were surgically placed in your jawbone. The single dental crown, implant-supported bridges and dentures are custom-made to look like your natural teeth and to fit your mouth.

The dentist may give you a temporary crown, bridge or denture to help you eat and speak normally until your permanent replacement teeth are ready.

Implants are not an option for everyone.

The Causes of Implant Failure

- **Failed osseointegration** – Implant failure of the jawbone to fuse together with the implant due to incorrect positioning, overloading, insufficient bone density.
- **Peri-implantitis** – The infection forms around the implant and inside the gums due to poor dental hygiene after implant surgery, causing further bone loss and failure.
- **Nerve and tissue damage** – The implant is placed too close to a nerve, patients may experience chronic pain, numbness in their gums and lips. The nerve damage could be either temporary or permanent and the implant may need to be removed.

Good oral hygiene is very important for the success of the implant.

