

READ THIS REPORT IF...

- You are missing teeth and . . .
- . . . you are embarrassed by your smile.
- . . . you can't eat the food you like.
- . . . your bite and/or facial appearance are changing.
- . . . you are tired of wearing dentures.

Dental implants have been around for over 50 years. Per-Ingvar Branemark, an orthopedic surgeon, was researching how blood flow affects bone healing when he discovered that bone would fuse (osseointegrate) to a titanium surface. This led to the development of dental implants. Early implant technology was invasive and unpredictable. "Root form" implants were developed between 30-40 years ago and, as their name implies, mimic the root form of a tooth. They are very successful, with osseointegration rates nearing 97%. Dental implants have become THE solution for replacing missing teeth. They help maintain healthy bone, properly shaped gum tissues, and allow people to smile, speak, and eat as they would with their natural teeth.

In this special report, Dr. Edward Warr of Today's Dentistry talks about implant dentistry, what to consider if you want missing teeth replaced, and how the Dental Plan helps make implant dentistry more affordable.



June 1, 2016

Hi, Ed Warr here, owner of Today's Dentistry located here in Ashland, Oregon. Our practice has served Ashland for over 13 years. During that time we have been fortunate to work with many wonderful people, serving their dental needs and helping them to enjoy life!

Throughout my early years as a dentist I would refer people to oral surgeons or periodontists to have dental implants. It seemed that more often than not, I was frustrated with the positioning of the dental implant(s). Finally, 7 years into my dental career, I decided to learn how to place implants myself. That way I could have complete control of the case from start to finish, and I could provide a better experience for my patients.

I sought out a surgical training program that provided me with academic knowledge as well as hands-on training. In addition, I received training from prosthodontists (think dentists who specialize in complex restoration of broken down mouths) specific to implant supported teeth (because implants interact differently with bone than natural teeth do). I received Fellowship in the International Congress of Oral Implantologists by completing the required amount of continuing education in dental implantology and submitting a number of cases for their review.

Dental implants are the most natural form of tooth replacement we have available. Many people are surprised by this statement because they feel it is very invasive to place a titanium post into the jaw bone. However, consider the previous standard of care for replacing a missing tooth, a bridge. With a bridge, the neighboring teeth are used as supports and must have crowns placed upon them, which, out of necessity, damages them. When you consider that, at the 10-year mark, 50% of bridges fail while only 3% of implants fail, and that bridges result in damaging adjacent teeth while implants do not, and that implants preserve bone volume while bridges do not, it becomes clear that the best choice, the most natural choice, for tooth replacement is the dental implant.

If you are missing teeth and are embarrassed to smile or have trouble eating, please give us a call. We're happy to take time and answer your questions about whether dental implants are right for you.

Sincerely,
Dr. Edward Warr

Implants Explained

"Root form" dental implants have been in use for over 30 years. Their shape mimics that of a single rooted tooth. While bone will fuse directly to titanium, most implants have a hydroxyapatite coating that facilitates the bone/titanium fusion process we call osseointegration.

An abutment is screwed into the part of the implant that is exposed in the mouth and acts as a connector between the implant and the crown. A crown is then cemented onto the abutment. Or, the abutment and crown can be made as one piece and the entire assembly is screwed into the implant.

As a person chews and functions on their teeth, force is transferred into the crown, through the cement and into the abutment, into the abutment/implant connection and into the implant, and finally into the bone.

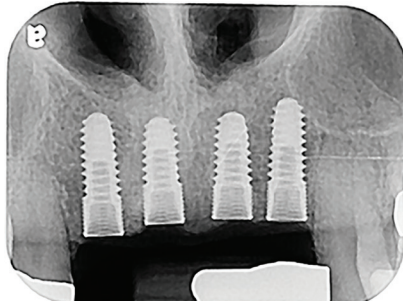
If we can reduce the number of interfaces and improve the quality of the existing interfaces, we improve performance and longevity of both the dental implant and the restoration it supports.

I use an implant with a specific type of implant/abutment connection called a "Morse Taper," which is the best connection for eliminating micro-movement between the abutment and the implant. I also use a "screw-retained" abutment/crown assembly whenever the clinical situation allows for it, because it eliminates the complications that using a cementation technique can present and provides for a cleaner, longer lasting restoration.

A dental implant that is 1) well placed; 2) properly restored (crown put on it the right way); and 3) well-cared-for, will last many, many years. In fact, it is not uncommon for dental implants to outlast their owners!



When Bill came to our office, he was missing several teeth and wanted a long-lasting, functional solution. We talked about removable partial dentures and implants. He didn't want the fuss of dentures and so he settled on dental implants. Bill still had plenty of available bone in his upper front jaw and so implants were placed to replace each missing tooth. Here is what he had to say about the process:



Prior to moving to Oregon, and while living in No. California, I decided to search the web for a dentist in So. Oregon who could address my dental needs, which included dental hygiene. Siskiyou County, California offered nothing in the way of competent dental care. My dental health over the years had suffered. I found Ed's web site, called, and made an appointment. After an initial exam he recommended what was needed and undertook the steps necessary to achieve that result. The dental care I received, and continue to receive, was the best I have ever experienced. Everyone in Ed's office makes me feel special by the way I am treated. The care is over the top. I have recommended Ed Warr to others who have told me they received the same great dental care as I have over the years. I urge anyone who is seeking a dental professional to make contact with his office and schedule an appointment. You will be very pleased with your decision.

Key Considerations

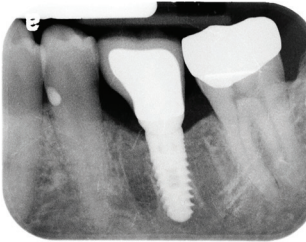
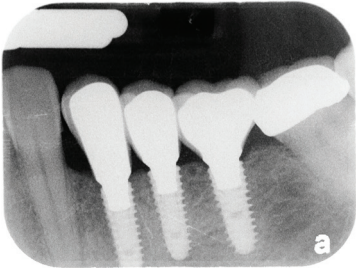
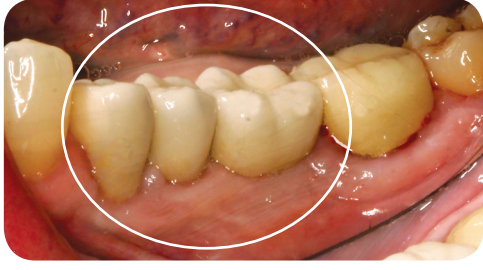
1. Number of missing teeth
2. Desired level of esthetics and function
3. Amount of available bone

Key Benefits of Dental Implants

1. They are very successful, 97% at 10 years
(Contemporary Implant Dentistry, Carl E. Misch, DDS)
2. Improved bone preservation and less gum recession on adjacent teeth
3. No damage to adjacent teeth as would happen with a bridge

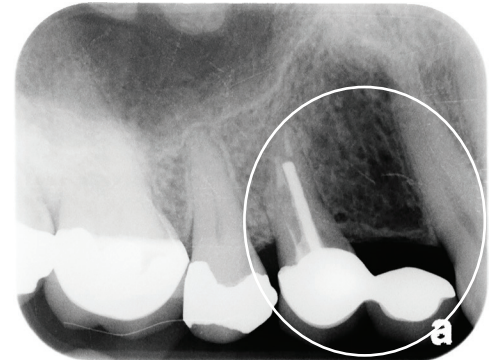
Here are some sample treatment plans. Pricing for our listed fee and with our Dental Plan are noted. It is easy to see that our Dental Plan participants enjoy a significant savings, thereby making implant dentistry more affordable.

SAMPLE TREATMENT PLANS

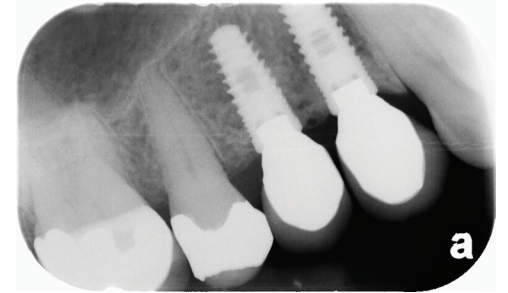
Service:	Listed Fee:	Dental Plan:
 <p>Single missing tooth with adequate bone available</p> <p>Implant \$1,400 Custom Abutment \$765 Crown \$1,182</p>		<p>\$1,120 \$612 \$946</p>
<p>Multiple missing teeth with adequate bone available</p> <p>3 implants \$4,200 3 custom abutments \$2,295 3 crowns \$3,546</p>		<p>\$3,360 \$1,836 \$2,837</p>
  <p>Multiple missing teeth with insufficient bone available</p> <p>Bone graft \$639 4 implants \$5,600 4 custom abutments \$3,060 4 retainer crowns \$4,728 2 pontic crowns \$2,210</p>		<p>\$512 \$4,480 \$4,480 \$3,783 \$1,768</p>



Jo had had good dental care over the years. When she came to our office she had a cantilever bridge that was failing. Unfortunately, the support tooth had cracked and required removal. Because there was not yet any infection present, we were able to remove the damaged tooth and place her new dental implants at the same appointment. Following an appropriate healing time, single crowns were placed on her implants to achieve a very natural and functional result.



Tooth with a root canal, post, and "hanging bridge" has cracked and needs removal.



Dental implants placed for each missing tooth and individual crowns placed on implants.



Natural esthetics of the two implant supported crowns (the two teeth to the right of the tooth with the silver filling on the far upper left).



Natural esthetics of the two implant supported crowns (the two teeth to the right of the tooth with the silver filling on the far upper left).



This patient was missing her upper front six teeth and had lost a lot of bone via atrophy over the years. Grafting was completed to provide adequate bone for implant placement, followed by restoration of her missing teeth.



When I discovered 2 years ago that I'd need tooth implants because an aging bridge had over the years damaged its "anchor tooth," I was pretty daunted. The concept of placing "screws" into my bone left me frightened. Even after Dr. Warr carefully explained the procedure, I explored having the implants done at another dental office which specialized in implants. What most influenced my decision to follow through and have the work done at Today's Dentistry was the personal treatment I received and the patience with which I was dealt when I asked questions.

My experience with Dr. Warr was nothing less than top-notch from beginning to end. I honestly felt no discomfort at any point in the process. AND, I have 2 perfect implanted teeth which have caused me not one instant of dis-ease. I would rate my experience five-stars and I am a really stingy grader!!