Implants in Mandible (Lower jaw)

If teeth require extraction prior to implant surgery, they will be extracted with a special, gentle technique to preserve as much bone as possible. The extraction site will be left to heal for a period of 4-6 weeks.

Implants are inserted into the jawbone after gently lifting the gum. The implants are then left to integrate with the bone for about approximately 4-6 weeks. The surgical technique and the implant system that I use, allows me to place implants in a single surgical procedure. Therefore, after 6 weeks healing impressions can be made for the final crown/bridge.

However, occasionally depending upon the quality of bone (especially in grafted bone) encountered at the time of surgery it may be necessary to completely cover the implant to allow undisturbed healing. In such a situation, another minor surgical procedure would be necessary after 2-3 months during which the implants will be uncovered and the next components connected. Following a further period of 2-3 weeks for gum healing, impressions can be made for the final crown/bridge.

You should be aware that the implant success rates in non smokers are around 90-95% in the front region whilst the back (posterior) region is around 85-90%. However, the success rates are lower when implants are placed in smokers and grafted bone. In the event of an implant failing, it is generally possible to replace it within a few months. This inevitably extends your treatment time.

In addition to the possibility of implant failure there is also a likelihood of experiencing discomfort, swelling or bruising for a few days after the surgery. There is also a slight risk (less than 1%) of damage to the nerve of an adjacent tooth leading to the need for root canal treatment.

Occasionally a CT scan is recommended to gather accurate information of your individual anatomy because an important nerve runs close to the anticipated implant site this minimises as much as possible, risk of injury to this nerve that could lead to loss of sensation in teeth, some area of gum and lower lip on the affected side. With our careful planning and surgical technique, we should be able to avoid such damage. However, due to the surgical manipulation in this area it is not uncommon to encounter transient (Temporary) loss or altered sensation. In most of the cases, the sensation returns to normal in a few weeks and occasionally few months. The incidence of complications is low and I do not think that the possibility of complications should prevent you from prevailing yourself of the benefits of implants.

Naturally when dealing with the human body, no guarantees are possible; no guarantee for aesthetic results or for permanent longevity can be given or implied. Despite this however, we assure you that together we will endeavour to achieve the best possible results.

It is your job to maintain meticulous oral hygiene and remain as plaque-free as possible. Most of the problems encountered after extensive treatment are usually the result of poor oral hygiene. We cannot stress too strongly the need for meticulous oral hygiene during all stages of your dental care.
Please inform us of any change in your medical status and that we are aware of any medications that may be prescribed for you.

I wish to begin this course of treatment and have read, understood and agree to the terms and conditions stated. I realize that I have treatment options and that I may ask for and explanation of any aspect of treatment.

Patient Signature  
Date  

Signing and returning this treatment plan in no way obligates or commits you to having this treatment. You reserve the right to decline treatment proposed to you at any stage of the planning.