

stDental Times

What is a Dental Implant?

A dental implant is an artificial tooth root that is surgically anchored into your jaw to hold a replacement tooth or bridge in place. The benefit of replacing missing teeth with dental implants is that implants don't rely on neighboring teeth for support. They are permanent and stable. Most importantly, dental implants look and feel like natural teeth!

What can dental implants do for you?

Dental implants can

- Replace one or more teeth without affecting bordering teeth.

- Support a bridge and eliminate the need for a removable partial denture.
- Provide support for a denture, making it more secure and comfortable.

Types of implants in use today:

- Endosteal (in the bone): This is the most commonly used type of implant. The various types include screws, cylinders or blades surgically placed into the jawbone. Each implant holds one or more prosthetic teeth. This type of implant is generally used as an alternative for patients with bridges or removable dentures.

See **Dental Implant**, Page 2

What's New!

Thank you everybody for completing our patient satisfaction surveys. We will be performing an annual survey because we care about the level of services we provide to you. As our patients, you are very important to us. We are in practice because of you. That's why we are committed to delivering a great experience every time you visit us. Your complete satisfaction is our top priority!

We would like to congratulate Maria Ruiz. She won the Oral-B Triumph Electronic Toothbrush valued at \$109. Her name was drawn from the submitted surveys.

Improvements we've made for you
(Some you requested, others we took

the initiative):

- More toys for the children's area.
- 26" LCD television with a built-in DVD player in the reception area for patient entertainment.
- Fish tank in the hallway. Fancy gold fishes were placed in the aquarium. Make sure to check them out next time!
- We have expanded our DVD collection to accommodate all ages.
- Headsets for patients during treatment.

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Dental Implant

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- Subperiosteal (on the bone): These are placed on top of the jaw with the metal framework's posts protruding through the gum to hold the prosthesis. These types of implants are used for patients who are unable to wear conventional dentures and who have minimal bone height.

What are the treatments like?

Placing dental implants is a team effort between you the patient, Dr. Huang the restorative dentist, and the surgeon. Dr. Huang will consult with you to determine where and how your implant should be placed. Depending on your specific condition and the type of implant chosen, Dr. Huang will create a treatment plan tailored to meet your needs.

- Replacing a single tooth

If you are missing a single tooth, one implant and a crown can replace it. A dental implant replaces both the lost natural tooth and its root.

- Replacing several teeth

If you are missing several teeth, implant-supported bridges can replace them. Dental implants will replace both your lost natural teeth and some of the roots.

- Replacing all of your teeth.

If you are missing all of your teeth, an implant-supported full bridge or full denture can replace them. Dental implants will replace both your lost natural teeth and some of the roots.

- Sinus augmentation

A key to implant success is the quantity and quality of the bone where the implant is to be placed. The upper back jaw has traditionally been one of the most difficult areas to successfully place dental implants due to insufficient bone quantity and qual-

ity and the close proximity to the sinus. Sinus augmentation can help correct this problem by raising the sinus floor and developing bone for the placement of dental implants.

- Ridge modification

Deformities in the upper or lower jaw can leave you with inadequate bone in which to place dental implants. To correct the problem, the gum is lifted away from the ridge to expose the bony defect. The defect is then filled with bone or bone substitute to build up the ridge. Ridge modification has been shown to greatly improve appearance and increase your chances for successful implants that can last for years to come.

Are you a candidate for dental implants?

Every patient must have a comprehensive examination by the dentist to determine if they are a candidate. They must be in good health, have healthy gums, have adequate bone structure, excellent oral hygiene habits, and maintain regular dental visits.

Some medical factors that might prevent a person from being a good candidate are uncontrolled diabetes, chemotherapy or radiation therapy, parathyroid disorders, blood disorders, rare bone disorders or bone marrow cancer. Also, chronic teeth bruxers/clenchers and smokers are not good candidates.

How long does the process take?

The process can take several months to complete. Each patient heals differently, so times will vary. After the screws are placed surgically, the healing process can take up to 4 months and the fitting of replacement teeth no more than 2 month afterwards.

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Tooth was extracted.



Implant was placed.



Final Restoration!

What's New

Continued from page 1

- Casey patient education DVD. Each dental procedure will be explained thoroughly with a dynamic 3-D animation and/or full-motion videos.
- Incorporation of a SuniCam, an intra-oral camera that gives us the ability to take a close-up picture of your teeth.
- Canon digital SLR 8 mega pixel camera is available to document your smile makeover.
- In addition to the massage function on the operatory chair, we are also offering hot towel services after treatments. All towels are professionally laundered, packaged and sterilized before they are offered to you. As always,

infection control is our top priority.

Continuing Education

Dr. Ann has completed over 50 continue education units in fields of practice management. She is now certified in dental coding and insurance reimbursement by Cross Country University.

Dr. Andrew Huang routinely attends study clubs and associations' meetings to hone his dental clinical skills as well as to update himself with the latest dental technology. He routinely completes over 100 units of continue education a year...well over the standard requirement of 25 units.

See **What's New**, Page 4

Did you know that we are involved in many community functions?



Above: from left to right

StDental Tooth Fairy, Alejandra and Veronica handed out sugarless candies and toys at the annual Halloween Trick-or-Trick event (Downtown Morgan Hill).

Order Here!

**Great News!
We have gift certificates available for the special occasion!**



Gift Certificates Order Form

Description	Qty.	Price per each	Subtotal
Gift Certificate in any dollar amount		Your Choice	
Custom Tray Take Home Teeth Whitening System		\$250	
Zoom! In-Office Teeth Whitening System		\$500	
Oral-B Triumph Electronic Toothbrush		\$109	

Order total: _____
 Tax: Zero
 Free Shipping* Zero
 Total: _____

Method of Payment

- Check
- Visa
- MasterCard
- American Express

Name _____
 Address _____

 Phone _____

Credit Card # _____ Security Code _____ Exp. date _____

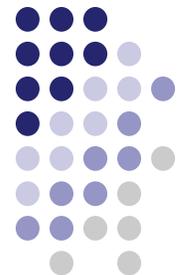
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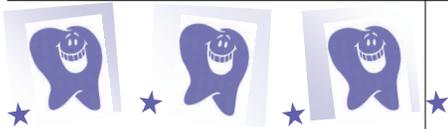
*Stop by the office to purchase a gift certificate or pick up products today!

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Family • Cosmetic • Implant • Invisalign

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Share a Smile

New Patients Are Always Welcome!



Your referral is the best compliment. We couldn't have grown without your support. Enclosed please find some of our business cards. Pass them along to any friends or family members who may need our service!

Dental Implant

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What is the success rate of implants?

The success rate for implants depends on the tooth's purpose and location in the mouth. The success rate is about 95% for those placed in the front of the lower jaw and 85% for those placed on the sides and rear of the upper jaw. Your overall health may affect the success rate of dental implants. Poor oral hygiene is a big reason why some implants fail. It is important to floss and brush around the fixtures at least twice a day, without metal objects. Additional cleaning of up to four times per year may be necessary to ensure that you retain healthy gums.

What's New

Continued from page 3

He has a special interest in computer-assisted dentistry. Did you know that he built the office website and networked all the office computers together by himself?

Community Involvement:

StDental supports our community. StDental is involved in many community functions such as Toys for Tots, Morgan Hill Downtown Trick-or-Treat, American Cancer Society's Relay for Life, South Valley Athletic Foundation, Morgan Hill Independence Day Parade, Rebekah Children's Services Festival of Trees, Morgan Hill Chamber of Commerce Sandwich Generation Forum, and Morgan Hill Pony Baseball.

Last Note:

Thank you for growing with us and becoming a part of our family.

Mission Statement

Santa Teresa Dental will bring quality dentistry at an affordable price to the community. We will focus on one patient at a time. All patients are treated like family. Patients will be seen in a timely manner. Patient comfort and satisfaction are our priorities. Our goal is to educate patients regarding the importance of oral health and regular dental check-ups. We will serve not only one satisfied patient, but one satisfied family, then finally one satisfied community.