



Dental Implants

Missing Teeth Can Cause More Than A Hole In Your Smile

Dental Implants Can Bridge The Gap!!

“When every Dentist I visited said I would have to pull all of my teeth, I felt old, unattractive, and worthless. Then, I met Dr. Barotz. He re-assured me, “It’s not you, it’s just your teeth!!”

Let’s face it, nothing can set our mood for the day like looking in the mirror and feeling great about our appearance. A healthy sense of self-confidence and a belief that we really do look our best can dramatically affect your self-image and the quality of your life.

Missing teeth can change all that for the worse — by affecting not only your self-confidence, but also the way you live by:

- Causing an aged appearance due to the loss of facial support.
- Placing more stress on the teeth you do have- and causing further tooth loss.
- Limiting your choice of foods and therefore your nutrition and general health.
- Making one feel isolated either socially or in the workplace.
- Leading to bone loss, making the fitting of dentures difficult or impossible.
- Affecting relationships with loved ones.



Choices, Choices, Choices....

According to Consumer Reports Online, about 19 million American adults have no teeth, and another 113 million are missing at least 1 tooth. Traditional solutions for missing teeth include bridges, removable partial dentures, or full dentures.

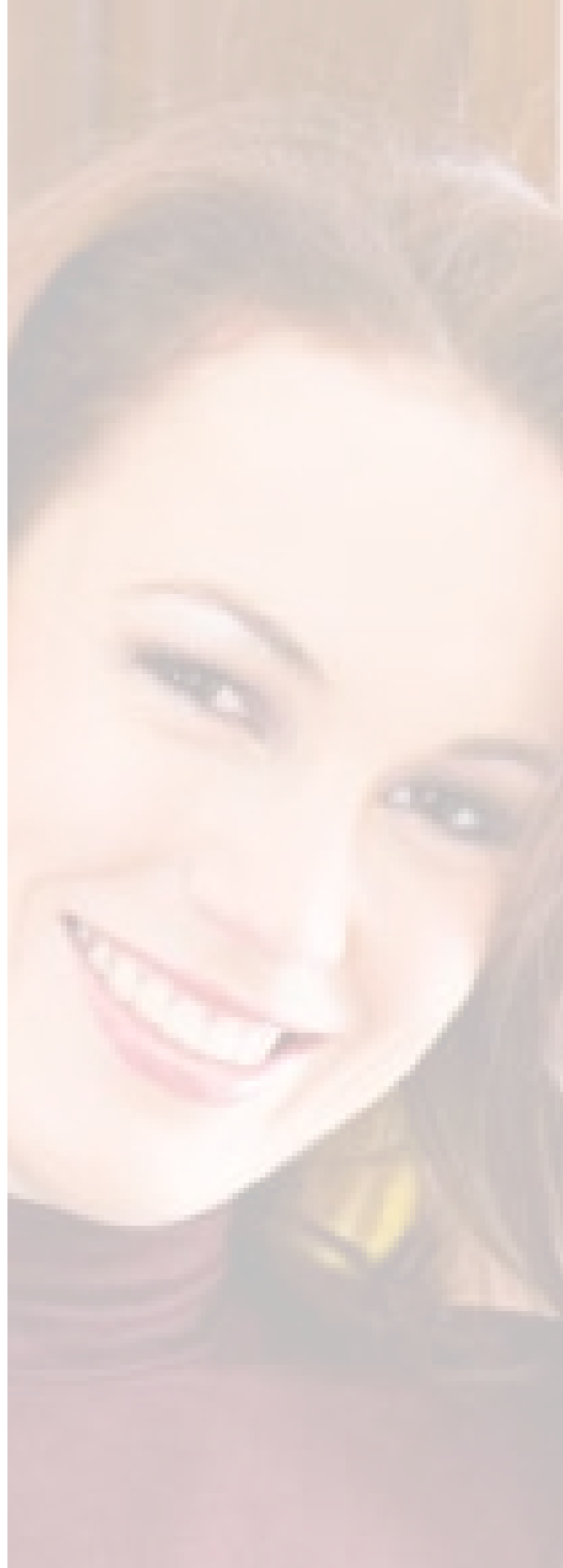
Bridges: Fixed bridges do come about as close to the feeling of natural teeth as possible. The drawback is that perfectly healthy teeth often need to be cut down for crowns to serve as bridge supports. These teeth have been shown to have many more problems as years go by. (Such as needing root canals or having to be pulled.)

Partial Dentures: Several missing teeth can be addressed by creating a removable, partial denture to fill the missing space. Partial dentures attach to natural teeth using visible clasps and hooks, cause stress on the natural teeth which can loosen them, and can promote tooth decay.

Full Dentures: Full dentures work well for some people. Even for them, worries persist about whether their dentures are going to slip and cause embarrassment. For the rest of denture wearers, living with pain and irritation of the gums, not eating certain foods, and difficulty speaking or even smiling is a way of life.

All of these options have one drawback in common: eventual bone loss. The primary purpose of your jawbone is to support your teeth. With tooth loss, your body assumes that there is no need for the bone either!! Slowly but surely, the upper and lower jawbones can shrink (a process called resorption). Eventually, enough shrinkage will occur so that even the best bridges, partials or dentures will not fit properly. Bone loss also causes changes in your facial features that can make you look older sooner by causing:

- A deepening of the groove between the nose and the corners of the mouth
- A pronounced, forward jutting jaw
- A shortening of the distance between the chin and nose
- Sagging of the facial muscles and unsightly jowls



So...Are There Any Good Choices? As A Matter Of Fact — Yes!!! Dental Implants!! Dental Implants Provide The Most Natural Feeling Tooth Replacement Alternative.


Early Dental Implant History

Dental implants are not a new concept. Archeological evidence suggests that ancient Egyptian and South American civilizations experimented with re-implanting ivory or wood carvings in place of lost teeth.

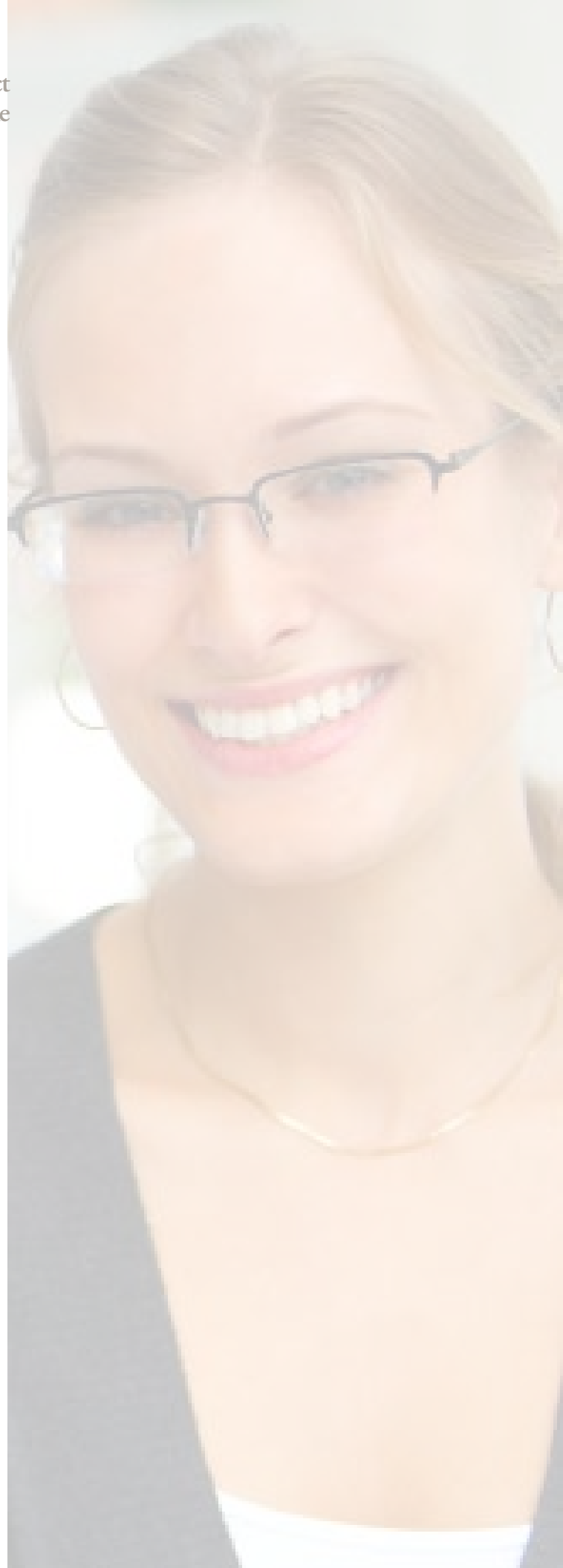
In the 1700's, teeth from donors were used to replace missing teeth. Success rates were not very good due to immune response rejection of the donor tooth. In 1809, gold implants were placed into fresh sockets, and a tooth attached to the implant after a healing period. In 1887, this was tried with a platinum post. In 1886, Edmunds performed the first US dental implant using a platinum disc to which a porcelain crown was attached. Experimentation continued using various metal alloy and porcelain formulas — with poor long-term success due to rejection by the body.

The first “successful” implants, using a cobalt-chromium-molybdenum alloy called vitallium, were placed in 1937 by Strock at Harvard University. Extensive testing on animals and humans resulted in few complications or reactions to the implants. Some of the human implant patients were successfully monitored for over 15 years. Vitallium is still used today for certain types of implants. One major drawback remained: How to ensure maximum strength with implants that do not become “part of the body”.

Modern Dental Implant History

 Since the mid-1930s, prototypes of today's implant concepts have been tested and perfected. A “quantum leap” in oral implants occurred in 1952 when Dr. Branemark, a Swedish Orthopedic Surgeon, screwed a titanium metal cylinder into a rabbit's thighbone as part of an experiment, and discovered that that the titanium cylinder had fused to the bone. He named this phenomenon “osseointegration”. On the left you can see the original titanium screw.

Clinical trials were performed to test the concept, the design, and the success rate of this implant in humans. Doubts



from the scientific community met Dr. Branemark's findings. In fact, it was not until 1981 that enough long-term data was available to publish a landmark paper for review by the scientific community.

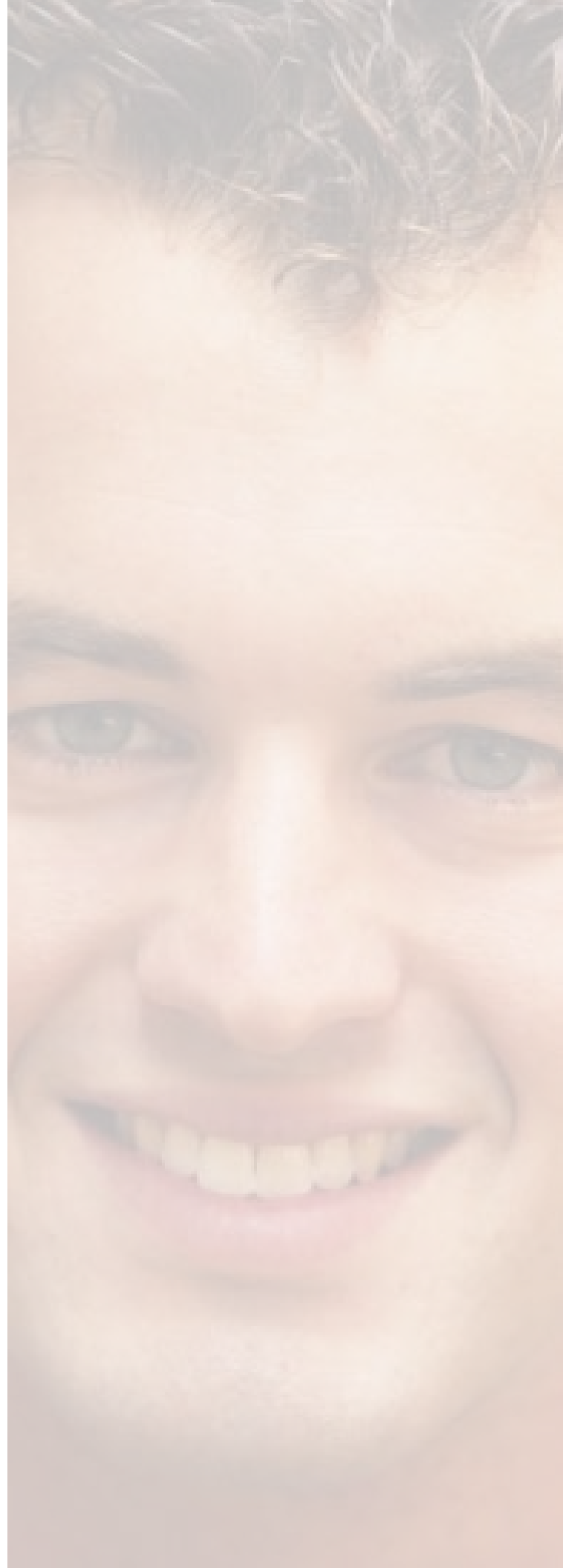
In 1982, the Toronto Conference on Osseointegration in Clinical Dentistry defined what "successful implant treatment" meant in a way that satisfied the scientific community. Finally, a dental solution the scientific community — and the body — could live with: A Titanium implant with no rejection problems that literally fused to the bone.

Many improvements have been made to the original Branemark screw, and research continues to influence titanium dental implant designs. In the United States, the FDA has been regulating all medical devices since 1976. Oral or dental implants have been placed in a Class III (pre-market approval) category, requiring that all dental implant devices prove they meet FDA standards through controlled pre-clinical and clinical study data.

Now That You Know Something About Dental Implants, You Probably Have Some Questions. Here Are Some Questions We Hear A Lot...

What Are The Advantages Of Dental Implants?

- They help restore proper chewing function, allowing you to eat foods that were too difficult to eat before.
- They don't move or loosen.
- Dental implants are the closest thing to the look, feel, and function of natural teeth.
- No gooey adhesives.
- No unsightly hooks or clasps to place damaging pressure on remaining natural teeth.
- The elimination of irritated or painful gums.



- No need to grind down and crown healthy teeth.
- They help stop bone loss and jawbone shrinkage by “mimicking” the roots of natural teeth.
- Through osseointegration (the fusing of bone to the titanium implant), they actually become part of your body!!!!

Who Is A Good Candidate For Dental Implants?

- Anyone who is missing one or more of their teeth.
- Age Is Not A Factor.
- Osteoporosis Is Not A Factor — provided there is sufficient bone in which to anchor an implant. Bone grafts are a possible option.
- In general, anyone who is healthy enough to undergo a routine tooth extraction or oral surgery is probably a good candidate for dental implants.
- Individuals with certain chronic diseases (e.g., diabetes). Or heavy smokers and alcohol abusers may not be good candidates for dental implants.

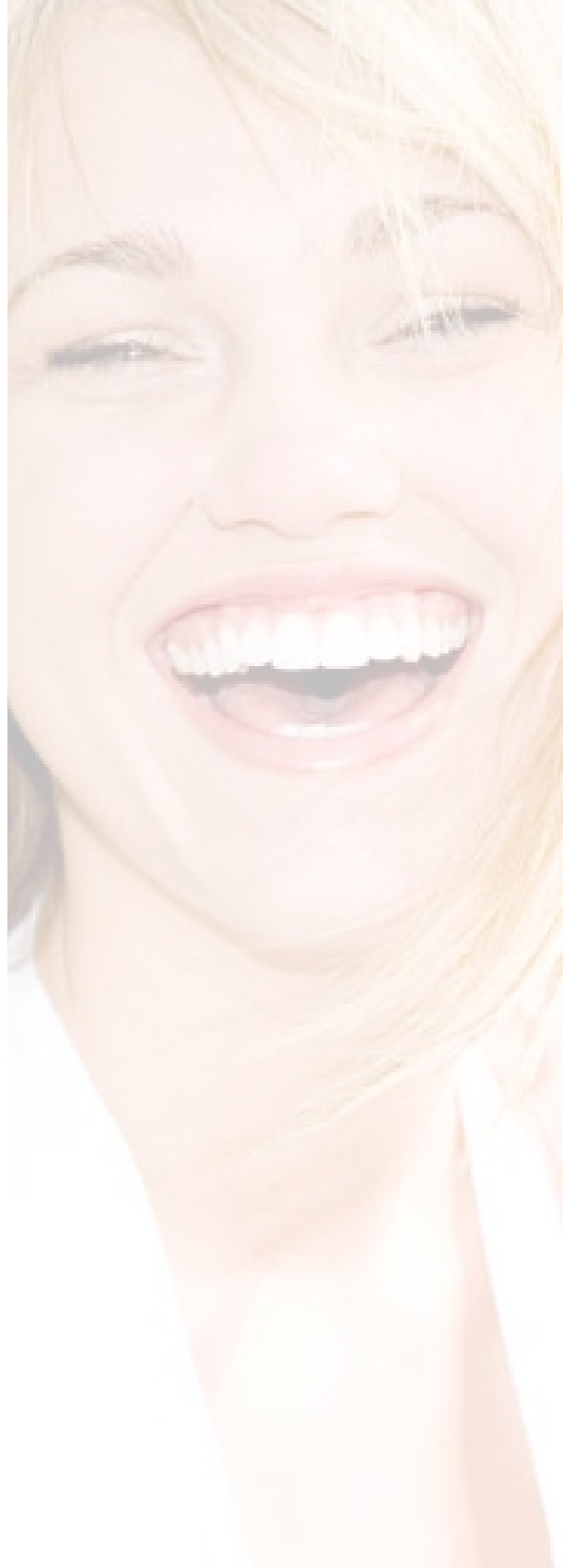
How Successful Are Implants?

- Factors such as patient health, implant location, amount and quality of bone, and patient home care all affect dental implant success.
- Under favorable conditions, dental implant success rates vary between 95% and 98%, according to most published studies.

What Does The Procedure Involve?

Phase I — Preparation

- Study models of the jaw are made from molds, or impressions, of the mouth. A surgical guide is then made from the mold. Special x-rays of the jaw are also taken.



- If there is not enough bone to place the implant, a bone graft may be required. Grafts are usually taken from a different area of the mouth or donor bone may also be used.

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A CAT scan (Computer-Assisted Tomography) of the jaw is always taken to ensure that there is enough bone in which to anchor, or “place”, the implant. It’s the only way to be sure!!

Phase II — Placing The Implants

- Dental implants are then placed. Local anesthesia is sufficient for most patients. The implant area is anesthetized, and an incision is made in the gum to expose the bone. The surgical guide made from the jaw mold is then placed over the jaw to aid in the placement of the implant.
- A series of successively wider instruments are used to create an opening in the bone.
- The implant is placed in the jaw by screwing it into the opening so that the top of the implant is at or slightly above where the jawbone meets the gum line. A cover (healing screw) is then placed in the implant to prevent debris from filling it.
- The gum is then stitched over the healing screw, and the Phase II is over.
- After implant placement, dentures cannot be worn for about 2 – 5 days. Antiseptic mouthwash, antibiotics, and pain medication are all provided to prevent infection, and for the patient’s comfort.

Phase III — Osseointegration: Fusing To The Bone

- Time is required to allow the bone to fuse with the implant- a process called osseointegration. Depending on where the implants are placed, this process can take anywhere from 2-6 months for the lower jaw and 4-6 months for the upper jaw.



Phase IV — Cosmetic Prostheses: Finishing Up

- All procedures from this point on are much easier than for natural teeth, and require no anesthesia.
- Depending on the individual case, a variety of devices can be attached to the implant. This process usually requires one visit to take impressions for fabrication, and a final visit to place and adjust the teeth or tooth.

How Many Physicians Will I Have To See? How Do I Know They Are Qualified?

- Most dentists refer implant placement to several specialist like an oral surgeon, prosthodontist, or periodontist. At Barotz Dental we are the Total Dental Solution and very rarely need to make referrals.
- Consumer Reports Online recommends that a Dental Team (all physicians involved) have done at least 50 implant procedures and 10-15 like the procedure you need.

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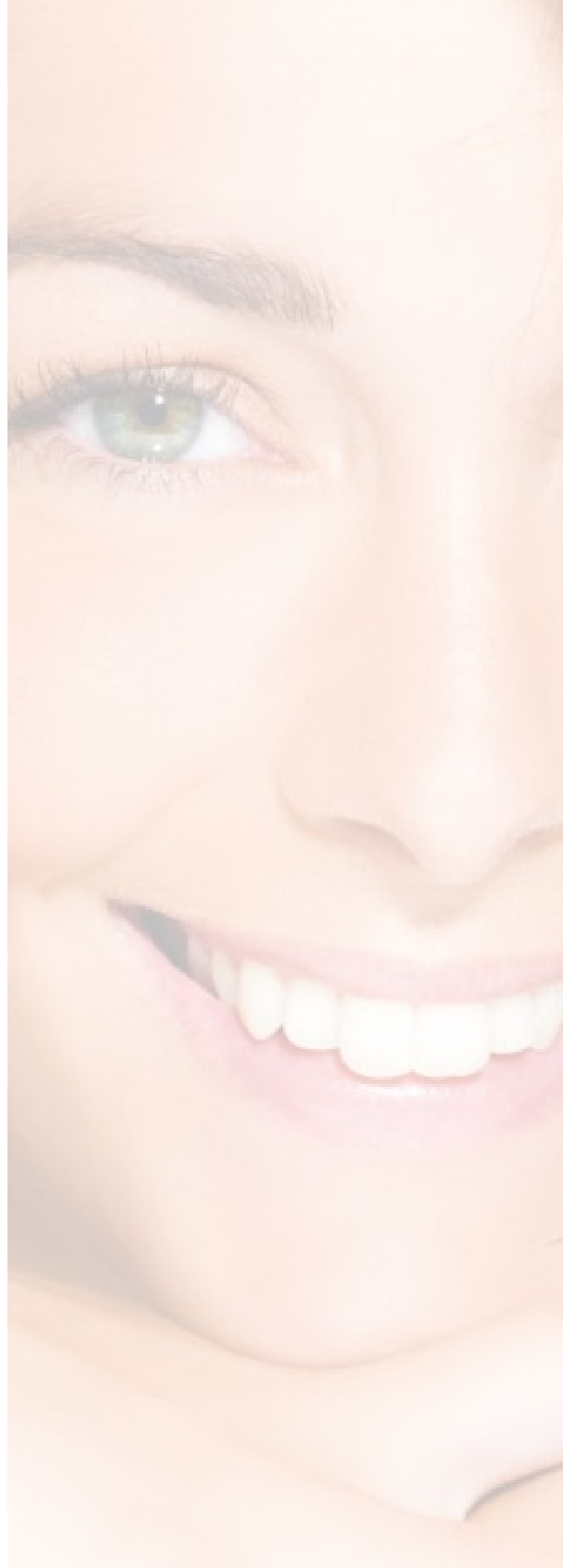
Barotz Dental has the equipment, expertise, and experience to perform all procedures at their location. There is no need for hospitalization. No more hassles with multiple hand-offs to different doctors who rarely have time to see their patients much less communicate with the primary dentist!!

Dr. Barotz has performed hundreds of dental implant surgeries to date, and is considered by his peers to be an expert and leader in the Dental Implantology field.

- The American Dental Association recommends about 20 hours per year of continuing education for their member dentists.
- Dr. Barotz usually spends about 200 hours per year on his continuing education to ensure that he provides the most advanced, state-of-the-art solutions for his patients.

Does Dental Implant Surgery Hurt?

- Because each surgery is different, and each patient has a different pain threshold, this is a difficult question to answer.



- Most patients however, report less pain with a dental implant than a simple tooth extraction. Many report no pain at all.

How Long Do Dental Implants Last?

- Although dental implants are designed to last a lifetime, the earliest implant is only about 30 years old. The overall dental health of the patient, the condition of the bone structure of the jaw, and regular follow-up care by your dentist all play an important part in how long implants last.
- According to published studies, the survival rate after 5 years is 95% for implants in the front of the lower jaw and about 85% for implants in the sides and rear of the upper jaw. Few, if any, implants fail completely.

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How Much Do Dental Implants Cost?

- The cost of dental implants varies depending on the number of missing teeth, whether or not a bone graft is required, the number of implants that need to be placed, and the type of prosthetic device to be used in the final restoration.

Are Implants Covered By Insurance?

- **FACT:** Annual benefits from most dental insurance is capped at \$1,500.
- **FACT:** In general, dental insurance plans do not cover implants. Dental and Medical insurance sometimes covers portions of the surgical procedure and restoration.
- **FACT:** Most insurance companies do not look out for the patients best interest, but rather look to restore a patient's health in an acceptable (but usually the least expensive) manner. Furthermore, most insurance companies do not equate acceptable with state-of-the-art.



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- At Barotz Dental, we feel that limiting the options available to you to restore your health (dental and otherwise) based on dental or medical insurance coverage is the wrong thing to do.
- We are committed to providing you with all of the information, options, and guidance you need to make the best and most informed decision for you and your health.
- Barotz Dental can help you with payment arrangements, allowing you to pay off the cost of the procedure anywhere from 3 months to 5 years!!!

At Barotz Dental, our mission is to enhance the lives of the people we touch by providing the most up-to-date, high quality dental care in a comfortable, personalized manner. A beautiful, healthy smile can make a difference in your confidence and self esteem. We emphasize dentistry in a personalized and comfortable adult setting. We have been a pioneer in enhancing smiles with artistic cosmetic dentistry. Our name has been synonymous with excellence since 1980.

If you are looking for an office that knows and deals with the special dental needs of an adult...why not call or e-mail us (barotzdental@barotzdental.com). We offer complimentary get-acquainted consultations where the doctors can discuss your specific concerns. Barotz Dental is conveniently located at 303 Sixteenth Street Mall at Court Place. Free parking is available. Take that important first step towards dental peace of mind or smile beautification. Call us at 303-595-4994 to set up a no charge consultation today.

Get a Fabulous New Smile,
Not a Big Disappointment

Sincerely,

Dr. Charles Barotz

