

5 MISTAKES PEOPLE MAKE

WHEN DECIDING WHETHER TO GET DENTAL IMPLANTS



ORAL & FACIAL
SURGERY *of Utah*

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1. CONSIDERING PRICE OVER LONG-TERM VALUE

Some people decide not to get dental implants because of the cost, but they fail to consider the enormous long-term savings that they can gain. When you consider the cost of maintaining or replacing dentures and bridges, getting dental implants is an investment that will save you money and improve your well-being. Dental implants are not merely a quick fix; they last a lifetime, enhancing general oral health. Dental implants look and feel like regular teeth and, because they fuse with bone, they are permanent. The benefits that come with dental implants include improved comfort, speech, convenience, and appearance. Also, depending on your dental insurance plan or the cause of a lost tooth, your dental implant could be covered by your insurance plan. Dental implants can be an excellent alternative for a fixed bridge or partial denture:

“Many people who are missing a single tooth opt for a fixed bridge; but a bridge may require the cutting down of healthy, adjacent teeth that may or may not need to be restored in the future. Then there is the additional cost of possibly having to replace the bridge once, twice or more over the course of a lifetime. Similarly, a removable partial denture may contribute to the loss of adjacent teeth. Studies show that within five to seven years there is a failure rate of up to 30% in teeth located next to a fixed bridge or removable partial denture.”

(Dental Implants. American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons. www.aaoms.org/dental_implants.php)

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2. SETTLING FOR OLD TECHNOLOGY INSTEAD OF EMBRACING THE NEW

When patients are in a haste to get dental implants, sometimes they don't do the necessary homework to maximize the results of the procedure. It's an unfortunate mistake because it can leave the patient needing a repeat procedure. You don't want to settle for old technology for this important surgery. Dental technology has made significant improvements in the area of dental implants, which can be the most stable and efficient of dental prosthetic options if performed correctly. Due to the latest technology, dental implants have a high success rate. Also, instead of having to wait to replace a missing tooth, patients can now have the dental implant, post and dental crown set in just one visit.

Your oral surgeon can prepare to perform surgery by using 3-D imaging. They plan the same-day procedure using a virtual model, which eliminates cutting through the gums. This makes the entire process less painful and requires less time for healing.

(Dental Implants: Surgery, Advantages, Risks, and Insurance Questions. WebMD. www.webmd.com/oral-health/guide/dental-implants)

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3. FALSELY ASSUMING YOU WON'T BE A GOOD CANDIDATE FOR DENTAL IMPLANTS

People who could greatly benefit from dental implants often don't pursue the option due to misperceptions about their personal oral health. Often, they are unaware of the numerous benefits that come with dental implants, even for those who have had significant bone loss or who currently have dentures. In any case, it can only help to get a consultation. Your oral surgeon will examine your mouth thoroughly. If your mouth is not ideal for implants, other methods of treatment, such as bone grafting, may be recommended. Dental implants can be performed under general anesthesia with IV sedation.

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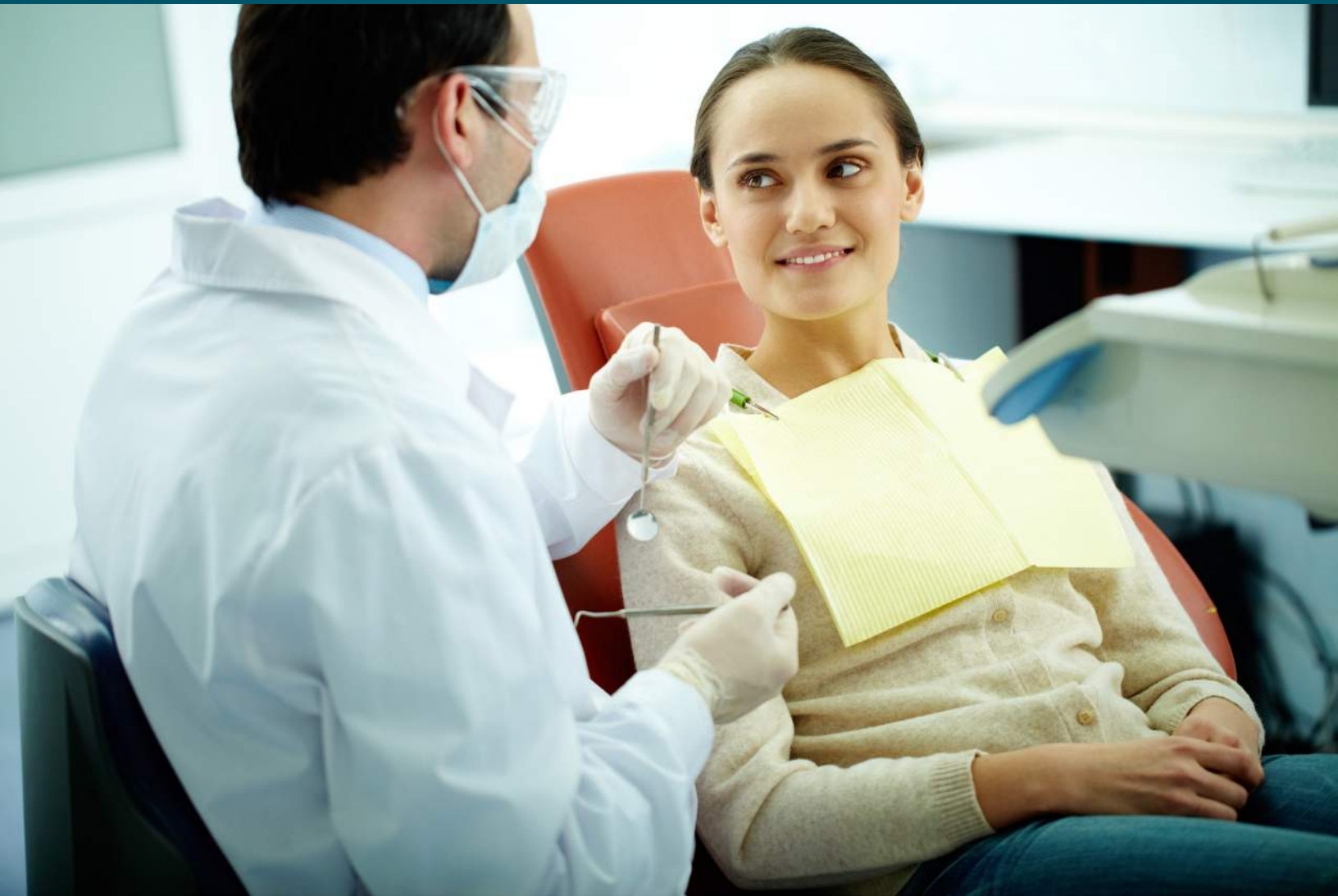
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4. LACKING INFORMATION ABOUT THE DIFFERENT OPTIONS AVAILABLE FOR DENTAL IMPLANTS

Many patients are unaware that dental implants come in several forms, specified to your individual needs. Knowing your options helps you make the right decision, one that you will live with for the rest of your life. A single prosthesis (crown) is used to replace one missing tooth—each prosthetic tooth attaches to its own implants. A partial prosthesis (fixed bridge) can replace two or more teeth and may require only two or three implants. A complete dental prosthesis (fixed bridge) replaces all the teeth in your upper or lower jaw. The number of implants varies depending upon which type of complete prosthesis (removable or fixed) is recommended. A removable prosthesis (over denture) attaches to a bar or ball in socket attachments, whereas a fixed prosthesis is permanent and removable only by the dentist.

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5. NOT HAVING A GOOD DENTIST-ORAL SURGEON TEAM

It is critical that patients realize that dental implants are a team effort—you need to have a good dentist and a good oral surgeon. Dr. Partridge and Dr. Maxfield have received extensive training in oral surgery from prestigious universities. They are highly regarded as scholars in the field who are on top of the latest breakthroughs and treatments in dental implants. They have the expertise and experience necessary to perform your procedure well and provide the maximum amount of comfort. Working with your dentist, Dr. Partridge and Dr. Maxfield will help you regain the confidence and convenience that comes with healthy replacement teeth.

FIND OUT IF DENTAL IMPLANTS ARE RIGHT FOR YOU.

Dental implants can help you eat, speak, and live with greater comfort and confidence.

For more information about dental implants or to schedule a free consultation, call call one of our convenient locations.



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