

PRACTICE NEWSLETTER

May 07

At The Cutting Edge



Dr Andreas Siebold (periodontist) and I presented a paper entitled “*Transition from dentures to implant-bone dentition*” at an International Conference in Johannesburg and Zambia hosted by Southern Implants (www.southernimplants.com) from 3 – 9 February 2007.

Local and overseas speakers shared their knowledge on current developments in the field of dental implantology.

Dental Health Information

Dental Implants Can Help You Avoid Glasses Later in Life

The image of your grandparents’ “teeth in a glass” evokes memories of youth, a time in which this daily ritual was as common as watching American Bandstand or playing with hula-hoops and silly putty. And while you might not be thrilled that reality TV, computer games, and fast food will be the icons of today’s youth, the good news is that the benefits of research in tooth replacement will erase the picture of dentures in a glass from your children

and grandchildren’s minds, and be replaced by a future filled with happy, healthy smiles.

Research has led to a more permanent tooth replacement option – dental implants. A dental implant, which looks like a post or cylinder, is an artificial tooth root placed into your jaw to hold a replacement tooth, bridge or denture in place.



While high-tech in nature, dental implants are actually more tooth saving than traditional bridge-work, since they do not rely on neighboring teeth for support.

The ideal candidate for a dental implant is in good general and oral health. Adequate bone in your jaw is needed to support the implant, and the best candidates have healthy gum tissues that are free of periodontal diseases. Some implants take two to six months for the bone and implant to bond together to form anchors (osseointegration). During this time, you can wear a removable temporary tooth replacement option over the implant site(s). Other implants can be placed immediately, whereby a periodontist/oral surgeon places the implant immediately following tooth extraction and attaches a temporary *fixed* tooth replacement. Depending on your specific condition and the type of implant chosen, we will create a treatment plan tailored to meet your needs...

As you can see, dental implants are intimately connected with the gum tissues and underlying bone in the mouth. Since prosthodontists are the dental experts who specialize in precisely these areas, they are ideal members of your dental implant team. Not only do prosthodontists have experience working with other dental professionals, they also have the special knowledge, training and facilities that you need to have teeth that look and feel just like your own. Speak to us about dental implants today and avoid glasses later in life.

For more information visit www.perio.org

Before and After

Amalgam restoration has come to the end of its usefulness and restored with a full coverage ceramic crown.



Before



After



Before



After

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