



# NEWSLETTER

## DENTAL IMPLANTS

Dental Implants are a means of replacing lost or missing teeth. Missing teeth can now be replaced in a predictable cost effective manner. The first endosseous dental implants were placed in Australia in 1988. The doctors at Northside Dental & Implant Centre have been actively involved in implant reconstruction since 1992. In many circumstances implants are considered the best option to replace missing teeth as they can offer a stable aesthetic and functional option for spaces in the mouth.

Implants can be used to support crowns to replace single missing teeth or bridges to support multiple missing teeth. They may be used to support existing or new dentures or partial dentures.



Before: Smile with denture removed.



After: Smile with implant and natural tooth supported crowns.



Before: Upper jaw with denture removed.



After: Upper jaw with implant and natural tooth supported crowns.



Before: A congenitally missing lateral incisor.



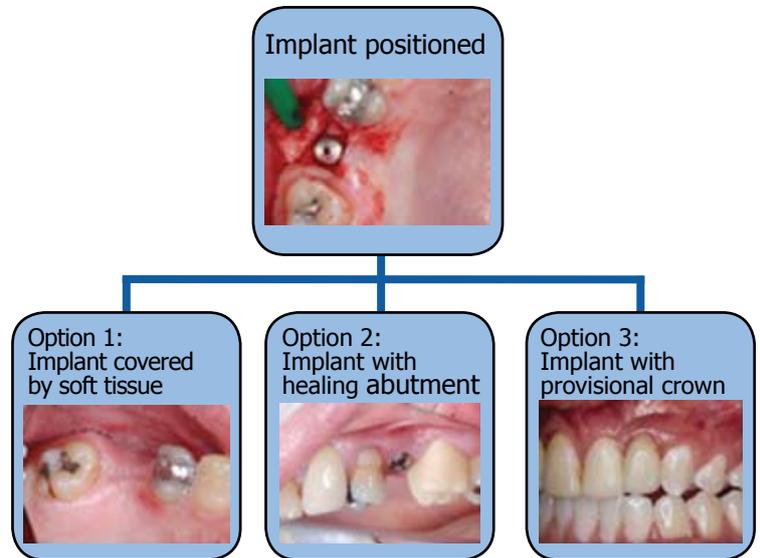
After: Implant supported crown in position

## IMPLANT PLACEMENT

### Stage 1 Surgery

A biocompatible titanium implant is placed into the bone of the patient using sterile surgical procedures and intravenous conscious sedation techniques. The implant serves as the "root" of the new tooth.

A number of factors will determine what happens next. The bone density, initial stability of the implant at the time of surgery, and what the implant will finally support will determine whether the implant has a provisional restoration attached, or whether the bone is allowed more time to heal prior to the "teeth" being added.



Option 1: In cases where bone density is poor or following a bone graft procedure, the implant may be covered by gum and allowed to heal.

Option 2: In routine cases, an abutment will be placed on top of the implant that will support the gum while both the gum and implant heal.

Option 3: Should aesthetics demand and the implant is stable enough initially, a provisional crown or bridge may be placed at the time of initial surgery.



Healing abutment in place following Implant placement



Provisional denture worn through healing phase of treatment

## Stage 2

In cases of option 1, the implant will remain covered by gum for between four to six months. In cases of option 2, the healing abutment will project through the gum into the mouth. In these cases, either a provisional partial denture or a provisional bonded bridge would be used to replace the missing tooth or teeth.

In cases where the gum is allowed to heal over the implant, a second phase of surgery to "uncover" the implant will be required. Following the four to six month healing phase, the implant will be surgically uncovered and an impression taken for the new crown or bridge.

The new crown or bridge is generally fitted two weeks later.

In cases of option 3, when a temporary crown is placed at the time of the initial surgery, the definitive crown will not be placed until a healing period of at least three months has occurred and the implant stability assured.

The minimum time for implant reconstruction will therefore vary between three to six months. Another three to four months may be required should large bone grafting techniques be required to build up or augment bone prior to implant surgery.



Healing abutment in place following Implant placement



Crown fused to abutment



Ceramic crown in position



Healing abutment in place



Zirconia abutment in place



Ceramic crown attached to abutment

## CONSCIOUS OR INTRAVENOUS SEDATION

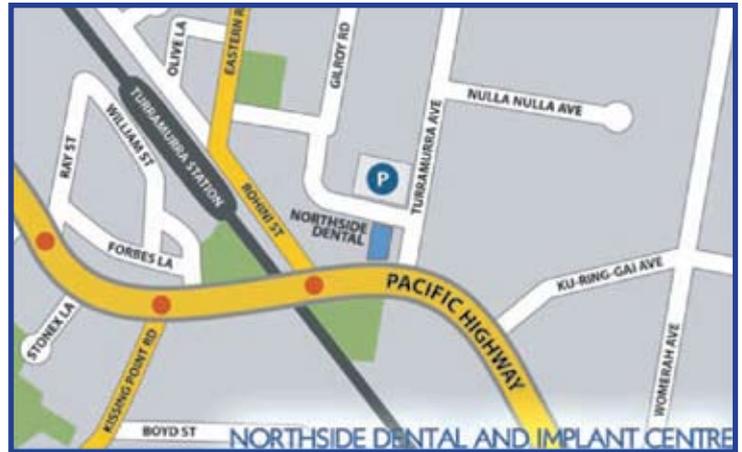
Is an efficient and effective way of providing profound anxiety relief and pain control during dental procedures. The amnesic effect of the medications makes sedation an ideal treatment choice for long or complex procedures, or procedures that patients would rather not remember. Sedation is also ideal for anxious or phobic patients or those with strong or heightened gag reflexes.

## GENERAL ANAESTHESIA AT THE SAN

Regular operating lists at the SAN day surgical centre greatly simplifies treatment of complex cases, phobic patients or special needs patients. All dental procedures from examinations and cleans to complex crown & bridgework or dental implants may be performed under general anaesthesia, should situations demand such treatment.

## WHEELCHAIR ACCESS & HOIST TRANSFERS

Should patients require the use of a hoist, arrival at the practice 30 minutes prior to the scheduled appointment time would be appreciated.



## NORTHSIDE DENTAL AND IMPLANT CENTRE

**Dr. Ian P Sweeney**

BDS(Hons).MDSc.Grad.Dip.ClinDent (Dental Implants).  
Grad.Dip.Clin(Conscious Sedation and Pain Control).FRACDS

**Dr. Vivienne Stewart**

BDS (Syd)

**Dr. Emma Black**

BDS (Ncl UK)

**Dr. Steven Parker**

BDSc.Grad.Dip.Clin Dent(Oral Surgery).  
Grad.Dip.Clin Dent(Conscious Sedation and Pain Control).

**Prof. Douglas Stewart**

BDS.Grad Dip ScMed (Pain Management). MscMed.FRSH

