Don’t hide behind your gaps; restore your smile with dental implants

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Possibly the most significant breakthrough in modern dentistry has been the emergence of dental implants. A person that suffers from missing teeth often lacks the confidence to smile, to eat in public or to speak with self-assurance. Missing teeth can have a severe negative affect on your health.

A dental implant is a titanium-grade rod that is surgically inserted into the jawbone. It is a fixed, permanent solution to restore one or several missing teeth, and allows you to eat what you want, when you want, and have a natural, healthy and confident smile.

Once the implant is placed in the jaw bone and after a certain period of healing time, a crown, bridge or denture is attached. Since the implant is attached to the jawbone and replicates a real tooth, the implant will function and look like a real tooth when you chew, smile and talk.

Dental implants are continuing to increase in their popularity as an option for patients seeking to recapture their smile lost through an accident, injury or tooth decay.

The benefits of having dental implants are numerous:

- **Aesthetic appeal of having a beautiful, balanced, bright and confident smile.**
- **Can be cleaned and maintained in the same manner as normal teeth.** You brush and floss as normal, and rinse with mouthwash just as you have always done.
- **Do not attach to adjacent, sound teeth like a bridge does.** The implant is anchored to the jawbone which provides a stable environment for which individual crowns or a bridge can be placed upon.
- **Able to withstand a greater amount of biting pressure.** This means that once again you shall be able to enjoy all of your favourite foods such as steaks, corn on the cob and even sticky desserts!
- **You reduce the amount of bone loss within the jaw.** This is a serious consideration when faced with lack of teeth or treatment; as you could be left with sunken cheeks and other problems associated with bone deterioration.

There are many considerations to be taken into account before placement of dental implants. The Brunswick Dental team conducts a thorough oral and general health examination, which may include a full set of x-rays, to determine your suitability or other diagnostic procedures. Receiving the implant is a two-stage process:

1. **Your first appointment is to place your implant.** Performed under a local anaesthetic, a small incision is made into the gum line and the implant guided into a position pre-determined by x-ray examinations. It is then left for a period of between 3-6 months to allow the implant to bond naturally with the jawbone.
2. **After the required healing period, your second appointment is scheduled.** The new crown, bridge or denture restoration will be secured to your implant, rejuvenating your smile and returning your mouth to full health and function.

Caring for your implant is as important as caring for your natural teeth, with brushing twice daily and flossing once a day. Although your implant is titanium and your replacements are porcelain, your surrounding teeth and gums are still susceptible to decay and periodontal disease (bone loss). Having your teeth professionally cleaned and regular oral exams at Brunswick Dental Group will ensure that your new and existing teeth are in prime condition for many years.