



A SMILE FOR  
**EVERYONE**



**B&B DENTAL**  
IMPLANT COMPANY

## WHAT IS AN IMPLANT?

A dental implant is an effective alternative to the root of a tooth. It consists of a titanium screw only a few millimetres in size. It can be inserted into the jaw or jaw bone, replacing the missing tooth.

The implant is made of titanium, a biocompatible material that avoids any risk of rejection and that integrates with the bone tissue by a process called osseointegration. It takes a few months—typically between 3 and 6—for this process to be completed.

The dentist will decide if there is a possibility of inserting the implants by evaluating various factors such as the type and number of implants to be inserted, the quantity and quality of the existing bone, the masticatory load, the position and other parameters necessary for a successful treatment.

The implant will act as a support for a dental prosthesis. The prosthesis is prepared in a dental laboratory and will be fixed onto the implant so as to look like a natural tooth.

Comfort, functionality and aesthetics are all combined this way.

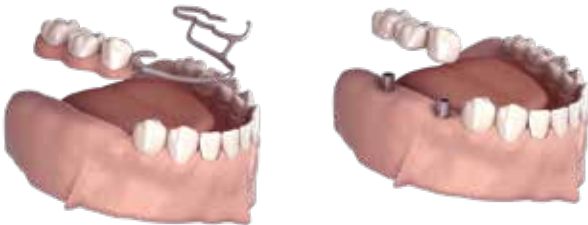


## THE ADVANTAGES OF AN IMPLANT

Implants allow you to keep smiling, to speak naturally and to eat any food. They represent the solution for cases of missing teeth or even for the reconstruction of an entire dental arch. It is the dentist's job to provide the ideal proposal for each specific case.



An implant makes it possible to replace a single missing tooth with a crown, thereby obtaining the same effect as a natural tooth, avoiding the need for inserting a bridge. This allows you to keep the neighbouring teeth intact, which is particularly useful if they are healthy.

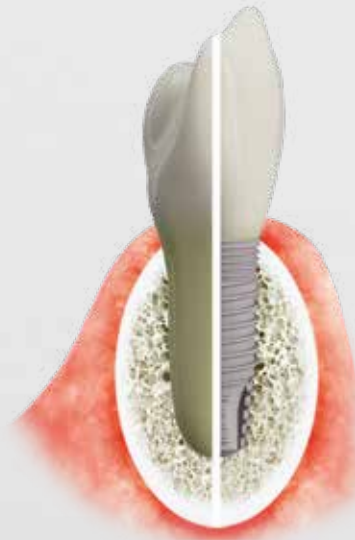


The dentist may recommend implantology in cases where many teeth are missing and there is the possibility that the traditional bridge can fracture and de-cement itself since it is supported by teeth that are too weak. By inserting implants, you can avoid the discomfort caused by a mobile prosthesis and instead enjoy the comfort of having fixed teeth.



In cases where all the teeth of the lower jaw (jaw) or upper (jaw) are missing, implants allow you to avoid using dentures by being placed directly on the mucous membranes, providing greater anchorage, which makes it more stable with a greater comfort for speaking, chewing and smiling.

You can also opt for a fixed prosthesis in cases where the quantity and quality of available bone permit. This solution is much more functional and provides a better aesthetic profile.



## DENTAL IMPLANTS

Implantology is the branch of dentistry that deals with the replacement of missing teeth by using implants. They can replace a single tooth, act as a support for fixed bridges or be used for anchoring removable prostheses.

## **RISKS AND DISADVANTAGES OF IMPLANTS**

Placing implants involves surgery that can be followed by post-operative disorders such as swelling and pain in the affected area. Although the rate of success is very high (about 95%), there is, however, the risk of failure in the first few months due to a lack of osseointegration or, subsequently, due to incorrect oral hygiene, an excessive masticatory load or other causes.

A prosthesis on implants may be more expensive and may require longer manufacturing times than other types of prostheses.

## **IS IMPLANTOLOGY PAINFUL?**

Absolutely not, as it is performed under a local anaesthesia on tissues with few nerve endings. You may feel some annoyance and discomfort for a few days after, which can be soothed with ice packs and analgesics. However, the pain is less than that experienced with a tooth extraction.





## ARE IMPLANTS SUITABLE IN MY CASE?

The following are the main requirements for someone considering an implant solution to replace one or more missing teeth: a sufficient amount of bone tissue, being in good health and having healthy gums. It is, however, worth noting that the problem of insufficient bone availability for receiving an implant can be solved: it is possible to operate in many cases by restoring the bone volume to an adequate amount.

In any case, it is up to the dentist to assess whether the implants are suitable for you with a dental check-up, x-rays, study models and possibly a CAT scan.

If you are thinking about an implant solution, you must be seriously motivated as the success and duration of the implants depend very much on scrupulous daily oral hygiene and frequent check-ups and professional hygiene sessions..

## HOW ARE THE IMPLANTS INSERTED?

The implants are inserted by a small surgical procedure normally performed in the dental practice, lasting from 20 to 60 minutes under local anaesthesia.

After the implant has been inserted into the bone, it is necessary to wait a few months for a perfect osseointegration to take place.

Only then will an abutment be inserted, onto which the prosthesis will be secured.

**ADVANCED SURGERY:** In some cases it is necessary to resort to special advanced surgery techniques to increase the thickness and height of the bone before or during implant insertion.





## POST-OPERATIVE CARE

**PAIN:** similar to that following a tooth extraction, usually kept under control by analgesics or anti-inflammatory drugs. Avoid those with acetylsalicylic acid (such as Aspirin) as they may interfere with blood clotting.

**SWELLING:** frequently apply ice packs on the cheek of the affected area for the first few hours after surgery. Sleep with your head raised on one or two extra pillows for the next few nights.

**ANTIBIOTICS:** preventive treatment may be recommended to prevent infection.

**PHYSICAL EFFORT:** avoid any strong physical activity or sports in the week following surgery.

**SMOKING:** abstain from smoking for one / two weeks before and for some months after surgery.

**FOOD:** prefer liquid food that isn't too hot for the first few days, and avoid chewing on the affected part.

**ORAL HYGIENE:** perform normal oral hygiene with particularly gentle care on the affected area, until the gum has healed.

## **HOW SHOULD I TAKE CARE OF IMPLANTS WITH A MOBILE PROSTHESIS?**

Proper oral hygiene associated with regular check-ups is essential for the duration of the implants that support a mobile prosthesis. In addition to the normal cleaning of the mobile prosthesis (without using hot water), carefully brush the attachments connected to the implants after each meal and clean them with a cotton swab moistened with mouthwash, especially along the gingival border.

## **HOW SHOULD I TAKE CARE OF IMPLANTS WITH A FIXED PROSTHESIS?**

Check-ups and regular professional oral hygiene sessions, together with a scrupulous cleaning at home, are essential for the duration of the implants supporting a fixed prosthesis.

Brush the prosthesis after each meal, just like your other teeth, paying particular attention to the area where the prosthesis meets the gum.

Use a special dental floss with a rigid end (super floss), which facilitates the insertion of dental floss under the bridge and helps to slide it into the space between the prosthesis and gum.

An interdental brush may be useful in the interdental spaces near the crown or on the bridge covering the implant, which are more difficult to reach. Use with gentle repeated inside-out movements, with greater accuracy along the gingival edge.

## **HOW MUCH DOES IMPLANT SURGERY COST?**

It is advisable to request an estimate from your dentist. The cost depends on the complexity of the case but above all on the number of implants, the type of prosthesis chosen and the treatment required before insertion.

In any case, it's an important investment for your mouth and your smile.

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## **PATIENTS WHO SMOKE**

The likelihood of a successful implant placement in smokers is significantly lower. For this reason, it is advisable to stop smoking or at least abstain from smoking for a few weeks beginning one / two weeks before surgery.

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**B&B DENTAL**  
I M P L A N T C O M P A N Y

Via S. Benedetto, 1837 - 40018 S. Pietro in Casale (BO) Italy  
Tel. +39 (0) 51.81.13.75 - Fax +39 (0) 51.666.94.00  
info@bebdental.it - www.bebdental.it