

## IMPLANTS

### **What is an implant?**

A dental implant is surgically inserted in the mouth to replace one or more missing teeth. The implant has three components:

- Titanium anchor – surgically inserted into the jawbone
- Abutment – protruding post attached to the anchor
- Crown – man-made tooth mounted on the abutment

### **How will I benefit from a dental implant?**

Benefits include an improved smile and appearance, the enhanced ability to chew and enjoy food, and protection of the other teeth and jawbone. In addition, an implant...

- Becomes a permanent part of the mouth, integrated into the surrounding bone
- Doesn't slip, move, or irritate gum tissue, unlike dentures
- Minimizes jawbone degeneration from missing teeth

### **Is the implant procedure painful?**

Implant surgery requires the use of local or general anesthesia to minimize discomfort. After implant surgery, patients may experience some swelling and/or tenderness. The implant surgeon may prescribe pain medicine depending on the patient's condition. After the procedure, patients will usually be advised to eat soft foods for up to a week.

### **How much does an implant cost?**

The fee varies according to the number of implants and the complexity of the procedure. Dental implant treatment usually takes longer and costs more than other replacement options. However, implants are considered the best tooth replacement option and function like natural teeth.

### **How long will treatment take?**

It varies according to the needs of the patient and the extent of the procedure. Typically, treatment takes from three to nine months.

*If you have other questions, our practice will be delighted to answer them.*