

How long may implants last?

If a patient regularly visits his/her dentist, and properly keeps oral hygiene, implants do not have an expiration date. Generally, only prosthetics that are replacing the missing tooth (or teeth) should be replaced.

Is there a chance that implant does not work?

Yes, it is possible. Even though the implant success rate is rather high, dental implant failures were seen in some five percent of cases. In such cases, the procedure can always be repeated.

How many implants can be inserted during the same surgical procedure, and is it painful?

Depending on the number of teeth that are missing (one or all), one to six or eight dental implants can be inserted during the same surgical procedure. The surgery is performed under the local anesthesia, and it is completely painless. Postoperatively, the patient may feel moderate pains that can be successfully treated with appropriate analgesics (but without aspirin).

Is an implant needed for every tooth?

No, it isn't. The type of prosthetic reconstruction dictates what number of implants would be required for a planned prosthetics.

What are the dental implant complications?

The most common complications occurring after the dental implant surgery, namely pain and swelling, are transitional and last between 7 and 10 days. If the feeling of numbness of the part of the jaw holding an implant occurs, a dentist must identify a cause, and apply an appropriate therapy. The frequent complication is the inflammation affecting the tissue surrounding the dental implants (peri-implantitis), which, if timely detected, would not cause any further consequences. The most severe complication is the dental implant failure, i.e. the implant loss. Complications that may also develop on the dental prosthetic structures (ceramic cracks, prosthesis breaks, etc.) can simply be managed by the implant re-construction.

How to detect the implant tissue inflammation?

The soft tissue surrounding the implant and tooth crown is red, painfully swollen, and likely to bleed to the touch. It also gives the breath an unpleasant smell as well.

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**DENTAL CLINIC
IMPLANTOLOGY
DEPARTMENT**



What is a dental implant?

A dental implant is a prosthetic structure inserted into the jawbone as an artificial replacement for a missing tooth root and a support for a future dental prosthetics (including crowns, implant-supported bridges or dentures). It is usually made of pure titanium shaped to resemble a tooth root, and differs in diameter, size and whorl. A dental implant consists of the implant body screwed into the jawbone and the prosthetic abutment, an implant fixture providing the support for an artificial crown or a denture.

"After a while, due to the process duration, today, when I got new teeth, all I can say to the entire team is a big and the biggest THANK YOU."

The implants are used in cases that involve the loss of one tooth, a number of teeth or the complete loss of all teeth according to all medical and dental implant indications and contraindications.

Medical implant contraindications include severe cardiovascular diseases, immune and some endocrine disorders (severe forms of diabetes), generalized bone and connective tissue disorders, psychiatric diseases as well as severe nicotine and drug addiction, etc.

Dental i.e. local contraindications involve all acute bone and soft tissue disorders of the oral cavity, the insufficient bone mass at the site where the implant should be inserted, the incompatibility of the jaws with one another, grinding of the teeth during sleep, and the poor oral hygiene.

Patients are indicated for the dental implant surgery on the basis of specific diagnostic test results such as:

- Clinical evaluation of the condition, number and position of the remaining teeth, the condition of the edentulous alveolar ridge and the relationship between the upper and lower jaw;
- X-ray findings of the bone width (horizontal thickness) and the high (vertical dimension) in the implant site, and
- Specific aspects of the designed treatment plan presented to and discussed with the patient during the consultation visit.

In the first year following the dental implant surgery, the patient should visit the dentist for the checkup examinations once in three months after receiving the prosthetic device and, then, once every six months. The patient is also advised of appropriate dental hygiene measures since following home dental care instructions is one of the main preconditions for a successful dental implant outcome.

For that purpose, the patient can use toothbrushes (hard, medium or soft), a dental floss, interdental brushes and mouthwash preparations containing chlorhexidine or natural herbs with pronounced anti-inflammatory effects. The poor oral hygiene might firstly result in the inflammation of the soft tissue surrounding an implant. If left untreated in this stage, it can progress to a more severe condition called peri-implantitis, which may result in the implant failure. Peri-implantitis is a disease of the bone and soft tissue surrounding an implant, and it is surgically treated.

Prior to the implant insertion, the patient should complete his/her treatment of all dental caries

and periodontal disease, extract bad teeth, optimally keep the oral hygiene, and, if possible, stop smoking.

On the day of the surgery, the patient is given a prophylactic dose of antibiotics, and if the postoperative swelling is expected to occur, he/she can get certain medications to prevent it. The surgery is performed under the local anesthesia in an outpatient setting. The implants may be inserted in one or two-stage procedure.

The two-stage surgery is performed in two separate steps: the first involves the placement of the implant into the jaw bone and its covering with the mucosa, while the second includes its opening and the prosthetic preparations. This step is not required for the one-stage surgery. Stiches are removed on the seventh day after the surgery.

The process of constructing a prosthetic device usually begins three to four months after the implant insertion. The main purpose is the fabrication of a fixed prosthesis (a crown or a bridge). However removable prosthetic models are used in some cases. They can be easily removed, and are virtually immobile and stable in the mouth.

