

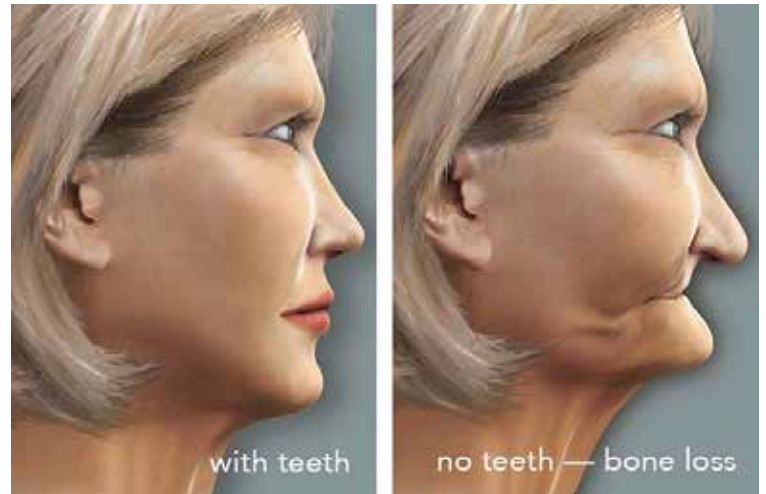
REPLACING MISSING TEETH
**WHY IT MATTERS, AND
WHAT IT INVOLVES**

REPLACING MISSING TEETH WHY IT MATTERS

We're all born without teeth. If all goes well, we eventually develop a full complement of 32 pearly whites. In reality, more than half of all American adults have lost at least one adult tooth... even when wisdom teeth are not considered. Gum disease is the most common cause of tooth loss, but other health conditions and accidents are factors too. Sometimes teeth are intentionally extracted to facilitate their replacement, or the restoration of nearby teeth.

Yet, as common as tooth loss is, it should not be taken lightly. Replacing missing teeth not only yields aesthetic benefits but also supports your oral and overall health. Problems associated with missing teeth include:

- Eating / chewing difficulties
- Shifting of adjacent teeth
- Bone loss, diminished structural integrity.
- Increased risk of stroke, heart disease, hypertension, and other conditions
- Changes in appearance, "facial collapse"
- Depression, fear, or anger



REPLACING MISSING TEETH

OVERVIEW OF THE TOOTH REPLACEMENT PROCESS

This is a general overview of the process. Some of these steps may not apply to your situation.

1. A consultation during which we perform a thorough evaluation - including 3D x-rays – and recommend a plan for replacing your missing teeth.
2. Tooth extractions (if needed)
3. Bone grafting (if needed)
4. Implant placement (along with bone grafting if needed)
5. Healing / bone development
6. Digital Impressions of the teeth and gums
7. Fabrication of dentures, bridges, abutments, and crowns.
8. Placement of dentures, bridges, abutments, and crowns.

GETTING STARTED:

CONSULTATION, EXAM, & 3D X-RAY

The tooth replacement process begins with a consultation with one of our doctors, who scans your mouth using Cone Beam Computed Tomography (CBCT). This scan is used to construct a 3D image of your oral features, jaws, and sinus cavities. It provides insight into bone density and any defects, and it also allows the doctor to create a highly precise treatment plan, and determine whether any bone grafting is needed.

Next, our doctor will review your medical and dental history, and conduct a thorough examination. They will determine whether you are a candidate for dental implants, and if any bone grafting procedures are necessary.

Your doctor will explain the pros and cons of different treatment options, and together you'll determine the best option for you.

Your comfort is always a priority. In addition to local anesthesia, we offer three types of sedation: IV sedation, oral sedation, nitrous oxide (laughing gas). In the consultation, we will present the options available to you and answer any questions you may have.

TOOTH REPLACEMENT OPTIONS

Tooth replacement can involve anything from a single tooth, to a few consecutive teeth, to a full arch (every tooth on one or both jaws). The process of replacing damaged or missing teeth is called restoration. The best restoration option for you depends on:

- The number and location of missing teeth
- The condition of your jaw bones
- The size and location of your sinus cavities
- Your medical history
- Your personal preferences

Tooth replacement is usually done using one or more of the following:

- Dental Implants
- Bridges
- Conventional Dentures (full or partial)
- Snap-on Dentures
- All-on-4 Treatment (fixed full arch replacement)

OPTIONS FOR REPLACING TEETH

CONVENTIONAL DENTURES

RETENTION	★☆☆☆☆
STABILITY	★☆☆☆☆
BITE FORCE	★☆☆☆☆
AESTHETICS	★★★★★
NATURAL "FEEL"	★☆☆☆☆
MAINTENANCE & REPAIR	★★★★★

IMPLANT SNAP-ON DENTURES

RETENTION	★★★★★
STABILITY	★★★★★
BITE FORCE	★★★★★
AESTHETICS	★★★★★
NATURAL "FEEL"	★★★★★
MAINTENANCE & REPAIR	★★★★★

ALL-ON-4 DENTAL IMPLANTS

RETENTION	★★★★★
STABILITY	★★★★★
BITE FORCE	★★★★★
AESTHETICS	★★★★★
NATURAL "FEEL"	★★★★★
MAINTENANCE & REPAIR	★★★★★