

Kin Wong, DMD

Dental Newsletter

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Cleanings and Exams



If you are overdue for your cleaning and exam, please contact our office as soon as possible to schedule an appointment that will accommodate your schedule. For your convenience, we are open two Saturdays per month. We are also open until 7:00 PM on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Cancellation Policy

Last minute cancellations and broken appointments can be very costly for any dental office. Canceling last minute does not give us the opportunity to contact another patient to take your scheduled appointment time. Kindly give us as much time as possible should you need to cancel or reschedule. Per our office policy, the office reserves the right to charge \$50 when 24-hour notice is not given.

E-mail

More patients are asking us to confirm their dental appointments through e-mail. We are happy to communicate this way! Whether you need to schedule an appointment or ask us a question, feel free to send us an e-mail. We return e-mails quickly, in most cases within a few minutes. Please give us your e-mail address at your next appointment or send a note to us at kinwong.dmd@verizon.net.



T-Link

By providing us with an e-mail address, you will have access to your secure online account; you will be able to check future appointments, view account balance and print account ledger information (for your personal records, taxes or FSA – flexible spending account).

2008 Referral Program



As a token of our appreciation to our existing patients, you will receive a \$10 Dunkin Donuts gift card when you refer one new patient to our office between October 1st and December 31st. Refer two new patients within that time and receive a free box of Crest Supreme white strips (a \$56 value!). Refer three new patients within that time and receive an Oral-B Sonic Complete rechargeable toothbrush (a \$120 value!).

What is a Dental Implant?

A dental implant is an artificial tooth root that is surgically anchored into your jaw to hold a replacement tooth or bridge in place. The benefit of using implants is that they don't rely on neighboring teeth for support and they are permanent and stable. *Implants are a good solution to tooth loss because they look and feel like natural teeth.*

Implant material is made from different types of metallic and bone-like ceramic materials that are compatible with body tissue. There are different types of dental implants: the first is placed directly into the jawbone, like natural tooth roots; the second is used when the jaw structure is limited; therefore, a custom-made metal framework fits directly on the existing bone.

How do they work?

Strategically placed, implants can now be used to support permanently cemented bridges, eliminating the need for a denture. The cost tends to be greater, but the implants and bridges more closely resemble real teeth.

Can anyone receive dental implants?

Talk with Dr. Wong about whether you are an implant candidate. You must be in good health and have the proper bone structure and healthy gums for the implant to stay in place. People who are unable to wear dentures may also be good candidates. If you suffer from chronic problems, such as clenching or bruxism, or systemic diseases, such as diabetes, the success rate for implants decreases dramatically. Additionally, people who smoke or drink alcohol may not be good candidates.

What can I expect during this procedure?

Dr. Wong must perform surgery to anchor the "artificial root" into or on your jawbone. The procedure is done in the dental office with local anesthesia. The gum is then secured over the implant, which will remain covered until it fuses with the bone. Dr. Wong then uncovers the implant and attaches an extension, or post, to the implant. With some implants, the implant and post are a single unit placed in the mouth during the initial surgery. Finally, he makes an artificial tooth, or crown, that is attached to the implant post.

How long does the process take?



The entire process can take up to nine months to complete. Each patient heals differently, so times will vary. After the implant and posts are placed surgically, the healing process can take up to six months and the fitting of replacement teeth no more than two months. Sometimes, if a patient has good bone quality, posts can be placed and replacement teeth fitted in one appointment.

What is the success rate of implants?

The success rate for implants depends on the tooth's purpose and location in the mouth, as well as a patient's overall health.

How do I care for implants?

Poor oral hygiene is a big reason why some implants fail. It is important to floss and brush around the fixtures at least twice a day. Dr. Wong will give you specific instructions on how to care for your new implants. Additional cleanings of up to four times per year may be necessary to ensure that you retain healthy gums.



What is the cost of implants?

Since implants involve surgery and are more involved, they cost more than traditional bridgework. However, some dental procedures and portions of the restoration may be covered by dental and medical insurance policies. Dr. Wong and his staff can help you with this process.

For more information on implants or other dental concerns, please visit the Academy of General Dentistry's web site at www.agd.org.

HALLOWEEN GIVEAWAY



Do you love Halloween? Scare your family and the neighborhood kids with custom-made fangs by Dr. Wong!

List your name and phone number below and hand this to a front desk employee. If we pick your name on October 15th Dr. Wong will make custom fangs during a 45-minute appointment *** FREE OF CHARGE ***

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Must be at least 12 years old, three winners will be chosen. GOOD LUCK!