

Informed Consent and Definitions for Dental Implant Surgery

Recommended Treatment: After a careful oral examination, radiographic evaluation and study of my dental condition, the dentist has advised me that my missing tooth/teeth may be replaced with artificial teeth supported by one or more dental implants. The procedure involves placing titanium dental implant screws into the jawbone. This procedure has 2 phases, surgical phase (*placing the implants and later exposing them*) followed by a prosthetic phase (*getting the replacement teeth attached to the implant*). In some cases, Dr. Sutherland will do both the surgery and the prosthetic phase, while in other cases he will only do the prosthetic phase and refer the patient for the surgery.

Surgical Phase of Procedure: A local anesthetic will be used during the implant surgery. Other forms of sedation, sedative pills (*valium*) might be used (**this must be arranged ahead of time**). Gum tissue will be cut open and moved away to expose the jawbone, a hole or holes will be drilled into the jawbone, and the titanium dental implant screw(s) will be placed (this is usually easier than getting a tooth extracted). The implants will have to be snugly fitted and held tightly in place during the healing phase. The soft tissue (*gum*) will be sutured over, closed over or around the implant(s). Healing will normally be allowed to proceed for a period of three to four months but some circumstances can require longer times. I understand that if I have dentures, they may have to stay out for the first one to two weeks of the healing phase.

Less commonly, after the required healing time period, the implant may need to be exposed. A local anesthetic will be given, the gums will be opened and moved away, and the stability of the implant will be verified. If the implant appears satisfactory, an attachment will be connected to the implant. If all goes as planned with no complications, plans and procedures to create an implant prosthetic, appliance or artificial crown may begin with your general dentist.

- that if during surgery Dr. Sutherland feels there is an unsafe situation or compromised amount of bone, he will simply stop the surgery and refer me to an appropriate specialist when the time is good for me.

IMMEDIATE PLACEMENT: In certain situations where a patient has a non restorable tooth, it may be possible to immediately extract the bad tooth and immediately place an implant. Otherwise, the other course is to extract the tooth and wait 2 months.

IMMEDIATE LOADING: In certain situations, it may be possible to place an immediate temporary crown on the day of implant surgery. If it is not possible to gain substantial stability during implant surgery, another temporary option will be available and must be used. If I do have an immediate temporary crown, I UNDERSTAND THAT I CANNOT CHEW ON THIS CROWN FOR THE FIRST TWO MONTHS.

Prosthetic Phase of Treatment: This phase is just as important as the surgical phase for the long-term success of the oral reconstruction. During this phase, an implant prosthetic (tooth/denture) device will be attached to the implant. In certain instances, (especially for front teeth) a provisional (temporary) crown will usually be attached to the implant BEFORE THE FINAL PROSTHESIS to test the function of the area and to develop a more natural looking gumline around the tooth. This procedure is approximately \$600.00 beyond the normal surgical fee and prosthetic fee.

Expected Benefits: The purpose of dental implants is to allow me more functional artificial teeth and/or improved appearance. The implants provide support, anchorage, and retention for artificial teeth or crowns. Implants, in a healthy situation, save jaw bone from resorbing and shrinking with time.

Principal Risks and Complications: While implants generally are about 95% successful, some patients do not respond successfully to dental implants, and in such cases, the implant may be lost. Implant surgery may not be successful in providing artificial teeth. Because each patient's condition is unique, long-term success may not occur. Complications may result from the dental implant surgery involving the gums and jawbone, or from drugs or anesthetics. These complications include, but are not limited to post-surgical infection, bleeding, swelling, pain, facial bruising, transient (*on rare occasion permanent*) numbness of the jaw, lip, tongue, chin or gum, jaw joint pain or muscle spasm, cracking or bruising of the corners of the mouth, restricted ability to open the mouth for several days or weeks, impact on speech, allergic reactions, perforation of the drill hole into the sinus if an upper implant is being placed, accidental swallowing of foreign matter, and transient (*on rare occasion permanent*) increased tooth looseness, damage to adjacent teeth, tooth sensitivity to hot, cold, sweet or acidic foods. The exact duration of any complication cannot be determined, and they may be irreversible.

I understand that the design and structure of the artificial tooth/teeth can be a substantial factor in the success or failure of the implant. It is always possible to have a successful, solid implant and the connection between the implant and the gum and/or bone may fail right away, or even months or years later, necessitating the removal of the implant at further expense to me (the patient).

Alternatives to Suggested Treatment: Alternative treatments for missing teeth include:

1. No replacement
2. Removable dentures, however, continued wearing of ill-fitted and/or loose removable denture can result in further bone/gum loss in my mouth.
3. Bridge...typically this option can damage the adjacent teeth if they don't already have large restorations and can put additional stress on these teeth. The bridge also depends on a high level of health of the adjacent teeth or it may fail.

Necessary Follow-up Care and Self-Care: I understand that it is important for me to continue to see my general dentist for routine dental care, as well as to get the implants restored with artificial teeth.

I am aware that abutment screws or crown screws can come loose and parts may need to be replaced over time at my cost; there are sometimes maintenance costs patient will be responsible for.

I have told the dentist and/or his/her staff about any pertinent medical conditions I have, allergies or prescription medications (*especially Bisphosphonates*) I am taking, including over the counter drugs such as aspirin.

I understand I will need to come for post-op appointments following my surgery so that healing may be monitored and so the dentist may evaluate and report on the outcome of surgery to my general dentist. I further understand that smoking, excessive alcohol intake, or inadequate oral hygiene may adversely affect healing and may limit the successful outcome of my surgery.

I know that it is important to:

1. Abide by the specific prescriptions and instructions given to me
2. See the dentist for post-operative care as needed
3. Quit smoking, Implant failure rates are several times higher in smokers

4. Perform excellent oral hygiene once instructed to; usually 1 week after the surgery is performed.
5. Have my general dentist restore the implant(s) once they are healed and I have been told I am ready for the prosthetic phase.

Bone Graft Materials: Sometimes bone grafting is necessary and performed at the time of the implant placement to build more bone around the implant screw if there is an inadequate width of bone due to bone loss or to grow bone at the bottom of some upper back teeth implants in order to “push” the sinus floor upward. IT IS ABSOLUTELY IMPERATIVE TO HAVE ENOUGH BONE FOR THE IMPLANT OR FUTURE COMPLICATIONS/ESTHETIC DISAPPOINTMENTS CAN OCCUR.

The sources of bone graft material are as follows:

1. Autogenous-from your own body. Sometimes it is necessary to take a piece of bone from your chin/jaw and move it to implant site. This would most times be anticipated ahead of time. The risks for this procedure are similar to those listed above in “principal risks and complications”. The place where this is taken from will grow back over time and will be sore for a week or two.
2. Allograft-from human organ donors processed in accordance with Health Canada (approved commercial bone banks/processors)
3. Xenograft-from bovine (*cow*) processed in accordance with Health Canada (approved commercial bone banks/processors).
4. Sterile, medical grade calcium sulphate (*plaster*) is mixed with the bone. Plaster is inserted and resorbs completely in eight weeks; this is a good source of extra calcium content for obtaining a successful bone graft.

A covering may be placed over the bone graft, either a non resorbable (*needs to be removed*) man-made thin Teflon wafer(*commonly called a Teflon barrier*) or a medical grade, resorbable (dissolvable) sterile collagen (*commonly called collagen barrier*) in a wafer form derived from either bovine (*cow*) or porcine (*pig*) achilles tendon. The purpose of the barrier is to keep the bone graft material in place.

No Warranty or Guarantee: No guarantee, warranty or assurance has been given to me that the proposed treatment will be successful. In most cases, it should be. Due to individual patient differences, however, there can never be a certainty of success. There is a risk of failure, relapse, additional treatment, or even worsening of my present condition, including possible loss of teeth despite the best of care. Dr. Sutherland will assess any and all failures and discuss possible options with patients. In most cases, it is possible to simply remove the implant, allow healing, and restart the procedure from the beginning. Most implant companies will resupply another implant at no charge within the first 1-2 years. The patient will be responsible for material costs and Dr. Sutherland will judge his time accordingly depending on the situation. The patient may be responsible for further professional fees and lab fees to help reconstruct a new prosthetic part if they experience an early or unexpected failure.

Publication of Records: I authorize photos, slides, x-rays or any other viewing of my care and treatment during or after its completion to be used for either the advancement of dentistry or in promotional materials. My identity will not be revealed to the general public.

Communication with my Insurance Company, My Dentist or other Dental/Medical Providers involved with my care: I authorize sending correspondence, reports, chart notes, photos, x-rays and other information pertaining to my treatment before, during and after its completion with my insurance carriers, the doctors

billing agency, my dentist, and any other health care provider I may have who may have a need to know about my dental treatment.

Females Only: Antibiotics may interfere with the effectiveness of oral contraceptives (*birth control pills*). Therefore, I understand that I will need to use some additional form of birth control for one complete cycle besides just birth control pills after a course of antibiotics is completed. Procedure(s) anticipated to be performed during surgery:

Extraction of bad tooth Bone Grafting/membrane (extra cost)

Immediate Placement of implant Immediate temporary Crown

Other details:

I have been informed of the nature of my dental problem, the procedure to be utilized, the risks and benefits of having this oral surgery, the alternative treatments available, the necessity for follow-up and self-care, and the necessity of telling the dentist of any pertinent medical conditions and prescriptions and non-prescription medications I am taking. I have had an opportunity to ask questions. I consent to the performance of the oral surgery as presented to me during my consultation and as described above. I also consent to the performance of such additional or alternative procedures as may be deemed necessary in the best judgment of the dentist. I have read and understand this document before I signed it.

Signature of patient, parent or guardian

Printed Name

Date

Signature of Dentist

Printed Name

Date