

TWO IMPLANT OVERDENTURE

Simple to make, Easy to wear

“The 1st choice standard of care for edentulous mandibles”

The Magill Consensus statement on overdentures: Int J Oral Maxfac 2002; Int J Prosthetics 2002; Gerodontology 2002

Dental implants are titanium screws that when placed appropriately in the jaw become fused (osseointegrated) with the living bone and can retain and stabilise dentures, crowns or fixed bridges. Implants have been used successfully for over four decades, making them an excellent long term choice.

Patients who have lost all their teeth (edentulous) are a particularly needy group, as their lower full dentures are renowned for being unstable, difficult to wear and uncomfortable. This may then compromise good nutrition and quality of life. The two implant retained mandibular overdenture significantly increases chewing function (approx. 6 fold) and has been considered the “1st choice standard of care of lower edentulous patients”.

PROTOCOL

1. Consultation –
 - a. Assessment of medical history and health of intraoral tissues
 - b. Explanation of risks and benefits of surgical procedure
 - c. Referral for 3D radiograph to assess quality, quantity, and shape of residual jaw bone and relationship to Inferior Alveolar Nerve.
2. Surgical placement of two titanium implants using local anaesthetic. Implants are submerged under the gum to allow healing and use of denture. An oral sedative can be prescribed if needed, will need someone to you up afterwards.
3. 2nd stage surgery to uncover the implants and placement of healing abutments 3 months after initial surgery. Denture will be altered to allow continued usage
4. Two weeks later healing abutments are removed and measurements taken for ordering appropriate gold equator abutments.
5. Placement of final equator abutments, and referral to prosthetist for conversion of existing denture into an “implant retained overdenture” or to make a new lower denture.

COSTS

Total surgical fee \$5596

Additional fees involved for prosthetist to convert existing denture or construct a new one.

MAINTENANCE

Significantly fewer visits for adjustment related to post-placement pressure spots are required for implant over dentures than conventional full lower dentures.

Similar to conventional full dentures, an implant retained overdenture will require occasional maintenance. The equator caps have been tested to 56000 cycles in the laboratory, however they may require adjustment or replacement after a couple of years by the prosthetist.

The dental implants should be checked clinically by a dentist on a yearly basis.