

A Hollywood smile is easily attainable

ecay of human teeth is as old as mankind. From the earliest times, humans have been plagued by dental disease. Over the centuries, tooth loss has made the lives of the poor and the monarchs miserable alike. Louis XIV of France ("The Sun King"), George Washington and the victims of the ongoing wars were all known to have suffered from periodontal disease. Maybe history would have taken another turn if dental implants had been introduced earlier, since our decisions are largely influenced by our physical well-being. Tooth loss leads to serious aesthetic and functional problems. Implant dentistry however provides new possibilities to replace missing teeth, restore proper speaking and biting function as well as facial aesthetics and thus improve the quality of patients' life.

Per-Ingvar Brånemark, a Swedish orthopedic surgeon and research

professor, touted as the "father of modern dental implantology "performed his first successful implant on a human subject in 1965 in Göteborg. Previously he had discovered that inserts made from titanium could be safely conjoined with human bone tissue. Since then, millions of people have benefited from the professor's landmark methods and implantology has become a routine procedure in the field of dentistry. The new technology spread all over the world in the 1980s and 90s rapidly. Only in Germany one million implantations are performed annually. Today dental implants not only involve scientific discovery, research and understanding, but also application in clinical practice. Due to the high quality of the material, the process of implant placement is practically uncomplicated.

Implantation helps save healthy teeth by eliminating the need to grind down tooth tissue, as required by traditional bridgework. Dental implants are artificial roots made from titanium which take the place of the original root and over time, this will bond with the jawbone. Once the new root has fully healed, a replacement tooth is created to match your natural teeth and is fitted into place. Dental implants can replace single or multiple teeth, stabilizing or even replacing dentures. Later this artificial root functions like a natural tooth.

The implantation procedure takes about 6-8 minutes which is generally preceded by an X-ray or a CT examination. Then the oral surgeon fixes the screw into your mouth that acts as an artificial root for the crown. The healing period varies depending upon individual cases and can take about 2-6 months. After the implantation temporary crowns are used which will be replaced with permanent crowns later.

Dental implants may be an option for everyone among 18-98. The ideal

candidate for dental implants is over 18 years of age because the growth of human jawbones finishes by the time a person reaches his/her late teens. There is no upper age limit. Although, there are some conditions and diseases that can affect whether dental implants are right for you. For example, implantation is not recommended for those with chronic, uncontrolled diabetes, or who take steroids.

Implantcenter Clinic - at 71 Grays Inn Road London WC1X 8TR - offers a wide range of oral health care services, from routine checkups, fitting braces, fillings to treating oral disease, executing multi implantation, bone transplantation or full mouth reconstruction. Our implantologists carry out treatments according to the leading technology and standards so you can experience the fascinating results of implantation.

To book a consultation, call 020 7242 0037 or 020 3411 9910. www.implantcenter.com

