



FOCUS ON DENTAL HEALTH

# Restore Your Smile With Dental Implants



Dental implant surgery is a common procedure presented as an option for replacing missing or badly diseased teeth. Dental implants provide comfort, stability and are the closest thing to a natural tooth.<sup>1</sup>

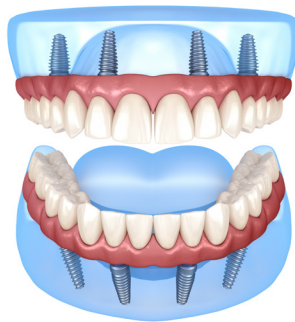
## What Exactly Are Dental Implants?

Dental implants are artificial teeth roots placed into the jaw to hold a replacement tooth or bridge.<sup>2</sup> They are manufactured “anchors” used in upper and lower jaws. The implants are made with titanium and other materials that are well-suited for the human body.<sup>1</sup>

- **Endosteal Implants<sup>2</sup>:** The most common type of dental implant. Using screws, cylinders or blades, the implants are surgically placed into the jawbone.
- **Subperiosteal Implants<sup>2</sup>:** These implants are placed on top of the jaw with the metal framework’s posts holding the implant in place by protruding through the gum.

## Benefits of Dental Implants

- **Comfort:** The stability of dental implants make chewing and speaking comfortable and natural.<sup>3</sup>
- **Convenient:** Dental implants make a good alternative to dentures as they don’t require adhesives and do not need to be removed overnight for soaking and cleaning.<sup>1</sup>
- **Durable:** Due to the material and procedure used for dental implants, they are very sturdy and can last a lifetime.<sup>3</sup>



VBA, in partnership with TruAssure Insurance Company, offers plans that provide easier access to dental care. To learn more, visit [vbaplans.com/dental](http://vbaplans.com/dental).



VBA dental plans are administered and underwritten by TruAssure and are offered in association with the DenteMax Plus dental network arrangement, which includes participating dentists from the United Concordia, DenteMax and Connection dental networks in all states but North Carolina, where the DenteMax Plus network arrangement includes DenteMax and Connection dental networks.

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Adult orthodontics option is only for Large Group Plans (50+ eligible employees).  
1. American Dental Association (<https://www.ada.org/>)  
2. American Academy of Periodontology (<https://www.perio.org/consumer/dental-implants>)  
3. Cleveland Clinic (<https://my.clevelandclinic.org/health/treatments/10903-dental-implants>)  
4. Mayo Clinic (<https://www.mayoclinic.org/tests-procedures/dental-implant-surgery/about/pac-20384622>)  
5. American Academy of Implant Dentistry ([https://www.aaid.com/about/Press\\_Room/History\\_and\\_Background.html](https://www.aaid.com/about/Press_Room/History_and_Background.html))

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## Dental Implant Surgery

Your treatment plan will be created between you, your dentist and periodontist based on your condition and implants chosen.<sup>2</sup> Treatment is often a three-part process done over the course of several months.<sup>1</sup>

## Caring for Dental Implants<sup>4</sup>

Just like natural teeth, dental implants need to be cared for. After the procedure, be sure to practice good oral hygiene, see your dentist regularly and avoid habits that could destroy your teeth and implants.

## Did You Know?



It’s estimated that two in three Americans have one or more missing teeth.<sup>5</sup>



Dental implants generally have a success rate of 95% or higher.<sup>3</sup>



Though they need to be cared for, dental implants do not get cavities.<sup>3</sup>