



IMPLANT DENTISTRY & ORAL REHABILITATION

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Implant Comments

PURPOSE

The purpose of writing this patient information monograph is to give you as much information as we can, and to present it as conveniently as possible. In order that we can determine any areas in which we have not presented adequate information, we ask that you write any questions you might have in the left margin of each page. However, if you do not have any questions about anything on the page, please sign the bottom of the page on the line provided to let us know you read the page and have no questions.

NATURAL TEETH

Your own natural teeth present in your mouth in a healthy, well-maintained condition are the best natural implants which you can possibly have. There is nothing else which compares with them. It is, therefore, in the best interest of your health and well-being to do anything you can to keep your teeth in the best condition for the longest possible period of time. With good care on your part, and with good frequent dental check-ups, you will be able to accomplish this goal.

SUPPLEMENTING NATURAL TEETH

When a tooth is lost, it is best to replace the tooth with a non-removable replacement as promptly as possible. With the replacement of a single tooth, a non removable bridge is often very satisfactory. However, in replacing a number of missing teeth, and at the same time restoring the chewing efficiency, you have increased the support which was present when the natural tooth was there in the mouth. The artificial tooth of the bridge does not have a root. In reality, this is no great concern when dealing with a single tooth replacement. But, assuming that we have lost two or three teeth in a row, or have lost several teeth spread out intermittently through the entire jaw, it quickly becomes obvious that a considerable amount of root support has been lost. Now, it does not make a difference. In effect, we have increased