

Implant Questions Script

The table below contains a list of common patient questions regarding implants and some example answers for you to use:

Patient Question	Answer Example
Am I too old? Is age a factor?	Age is really not a factor. Implants have been placed in healthy people ranging in age from children through people in their 80's.
I've been without teeth for a number of years. What about bone loss?	The only way to determine the impact of bone shrinkage is through an x-ray. Though loss of bone is a problem, implants have been successfully placed in patients who have been without teeth for more than 20 years.
I'm only missing a few of my teeth. Are implants still an option?	Yes. Implants were developed for people missing some or all of their teeth. They are for people who cannot or do not want to wear conventional dentures but prefer a fixed or partially fixed bridgework. In fact, there is even an implant for single tooth replacement.
Is the procedure painful?	Based on what patients have told us, the discomfort is comparable to an extraction. In other words, there is minimal discomfort. Some patients do not even require prescription medication after surgery.
How long should I plan to take off of work?	As with any surgery, this depends on the extent of the surgery, health of the patient, and care received during the healing phase. However, as a general statement, it would be a good idea to take approximately three (3) consecutive days out of your schedule for recovery.
What can I eat?	This varies by procedure. However, a general rule of thumb is to have a liquid diet for the first three (3) days, graduating to a relatively soft diet over the next seven (7) days.
How long do I have to go without my present denture?	This depends on the individual surgery. It ranges from no time at all to approximately one

	to two weeks. Please discuss the requirements of your particular case with your doctors.
How much does it cost?	The cost of the procedure depends on the number of implants used and the type of crown, bridge, or denture that best meets your needs. Once the surgeon has determined that you are a viable candidate and you have decided to accept the treatment, there are a number of payment options that can be explored. We are also finding that more and more insurance companies are willing to help pay for this treatment.
How long does the process take from start to finish?	After the first surgery, you need to heal for about four (4) to six (6) months for lower implants and six (6) to nine (9) months for upper implants. The second surgery is a minor procedure requiring a short healing period. Following that, your prosthesis will be made, and then you will receive your new teeth. The total time required from start to finish is approximately six (6) months to a year.