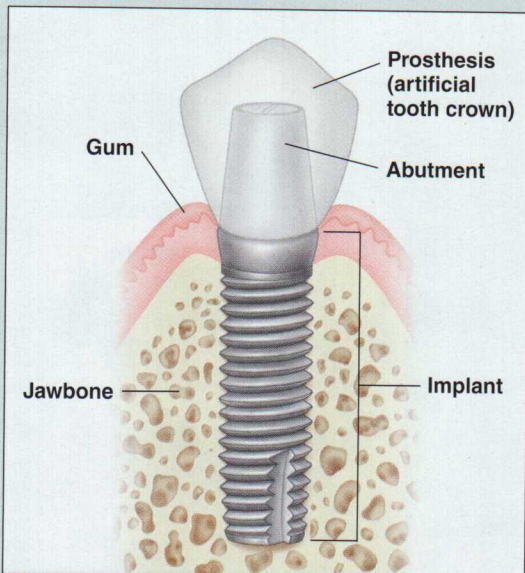


A NEW SMILE

It's no fun when you're missing teeth. You may not feel comfortable eating or speaking. You might even avoid smiling in public. Fortunately, dental implants can help. Implants can replace a single tooth, several teeth, or all the teeth in your mouth. Best of all, they look and feel like natural teeth.

When Teeth Are Missing

It can be embarrassing to have spaces in your mouth where teeth are missing. But you're not alone. Some people lose teeth due to injury, tooth decay, or **periodontal disease** (infection of the gums and bone surrounding teeth). Others may not have had all their teeth grow in. Whatever the reason, dental implants can help replace missing teeth. And implants often feel more natural than dentures and other dental restorations.



Osseointegration occurs when bone fuses with the implant. This provides a solid base for the prosthesis.



Implants can replace teeth lost from injury.

Implants Can Help

If you want a dental restoration that looks and feels as though it's really part of your mouth, dental implants may be right for you. A dental implant is an artificial tooth root. Your jawbone fuses with the implant to provide a secure platform for a **prosthesis** (artificial tooth). If you are missing many teeth, several implants can be used to support a partial or complete denture.

This booklet is not intended as a substitute for professional dental care.
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