



## **Am I A Good Candidate For Dental Implants?**

The ideal candidate for dental implants is in good general and oral health. A person considering implants should have sufficient bone mass in the jaw and healthy gums, free from periodontal disease. Dental implants are intimately connected with the gum tissues and underlying bone in the mouth. Dr. Stevens has the training to surgically place the dental implant and also perform the restorative work that allows for a natural look and feel.

### **Single dental implant solutions for one missing tooth**

If you are missing a single tooth due to disease or trauma, it can be easily replaced with a single dental implant. To replace a single tooth, a self-supporting dental implant is placed at the site of the missing tooth consisting of a titanium base, an abutment post and a crown or replacement tooth that will look and feel like a natural tooth.

Dental implants are the treatment of choice for replacing one or more missing teeth. By definition, a dental implant is an artificial, self-sustaining titanium tooth-root that is inserted into the jawbone and acts as an anchor to support a replacement tooth or teeth. Implant dentistry has a success rate of over 95% and can often last a lifetime with proper dental hygiene and regularly scheduled dental visits. Dental implants keep adjacent teeth healthy and maintain the structure of your jawbone. A dental implant is made up of three parts: a titanium base implant (replacing the tooth root) that joins with the jawbone, an abutment connected to the titanium implant which protrudes from the gum line, and a crown resembling a natural tooth which is placed onto the abutment, forming a

101 N. Pointe Blvd. Suite 201 Lancaster PA 17601

**717.581.0123** | [dental@smilesbystevensdmd.com](mailto:dental@smilesbystevensdmd.com)

natural-looking, artificial tooth. Implants feel and work like natural teeth because they are integrated with the bone and do not require adhesives.

They are never removed and do not rely on other teeth for support.

## **Multiple dental implants**

Multiple dental implants are ideal and are now considered the standard of care for those missing several teeth, especially in a row. With the loss of multiple teeth, it is crucial to replace the missing teeth in order to prevent bone deterioration and facial structure collapse. Multiple dental implants offer a vastly superior solution because they restore the lost roots, using fewer implants than you think. It is commonly not necessary to use an implant to replace each tooth.

Often three or more teeth can be replaced with only two implants. Plus, the surrounding healthy teeth are unharmed. When restoring multiple missing teeth, two or more dental implants are placed. The patient then wears a temporary removable appliance known as a "flipper" that acts as replacement teeth during the healing period. This typically lasts from 4 to 6 months, during which the implants bond securely to the bone. Then, the fixed replacement teeth can be attached and the procedure is complete. In some cases, immediate load implants restored right away can minimize the healing period and avoid the necessity of a flipper.

**Most dentists in Lancaster do not offer dental implants. Contact Dr. Shea F. Stevens to schedule a consultation at 717.581.0123.**

101 N. Pointe Blvd. Suite 201 Lancaster PA 17601

**717.581.0123** | [dental@smilesbystevensdmd.com](mailto:dental@smilesbystevensdmd.com)