

All-on-Four Dental Implants FAQ Sheet

Q. What are dental implants?

A. A dental implant is composed of three components: a small titanium screw that is inserted into and fuses with the jawbone, an “abutment” or post which attaches to the implant, and a crown (in the case of one implant) that fits over the abutment to provide a natural looking, fully functional tooth.

Q. How is the All-on-Four technique different from other dental implants?

A. With the All-on-Four procedure, qualified patients receive just four implants and a full set of new replacement teeth in just one appointment—without major bone grafts! A main difference is how quickly permanent implants can be placed so that patients can leave the same day with fixed, non-removable replacement teeth.

Traditional approaches to restoring a full arch of teeth usually involves significant bone grafts, six or more implants and as many as 18 months of treatment. This means that a patient would often be without any teeth, or with poorly fitting temporary dentures for more than a year. At Dental Solutions of Little Rock, patients always leave with a beautiful smile!

Q. What are the benefits of dental implants?

A. Implant supported replacement teeth are fixed in place and look and perform almost like natural teeth. They fit precisely without slipping or the need for adhesives.

The All-on-Four technique preserves facial features, and restores your natural smile. In addition to preventing loss of bone in the area

of the missing teeth, implants improve your appearance, your confidence and your ability to eat the foods you like without worrying about your teeth!

Q. How will dental implants affect my life?

A. Dental implant-supported replacement teeth look, feel and function similar to natural teeth. This means that you can eat and drink whatever you choose. But most importantly, dental implants often improve quality of life in a very concrete way. People who have felt embarrassed and worried because of their teeth problems are amazed by what new permanent teeth can do for their self-esteem.

Q. Can anyone have dental implants?

A. Almost everyone that has lost a tooth, several teeth or even all of their teeth is a candidate for dental implants. There are very few situations in which implants are not suitable. Patients who have medical conditions that interfere with the healing process of their bones or soft tissues (e.g. connective tissue disorders, steroid therapy, bone disorders and smokers) must be carefully assessed for dental implants.

Occasionally, older patients express concern that their age may prevent them from enjoying the benefits of dental implants. However, health is more of a determining factor than age for dental implant success.

Q. How do I care for my dental implants and new teeth?

A. Implant supported teeth need to be brushed and cared for just like natural teeth. As with natural teeth, you will need to visit your dentist and hygienist periodically for review and maintenance.

Q. Can I finance my dental implants?

A. Yes! Dental Solutions of Little Rock offers several financing options for the All-on-Four procedure for up to 84 months, at a low fixed rate. Ask a Dental Solutions of Little Rock staff member for more information.

Q. What can I expect as far as the procedure goes?

A. With the All-on-Four procedure, you'll have one or two visits to the office to allow Dental Solutions of Little Rock and our partnering oral surgeon to design your smile (CAT Scan, X-rays, impressions, photos, etc.). Following the initial consultations, we will schedule your surgery to have your implants and new teeth placed, all in one appointment (even when extractions are necessary). On the morning of your surgery, you'll come in with bad (or no) teeth, and leave the same day with a beautiful set of fixed, functional teeth.

You will return for occasional check-ups over the next several weeks and months. After approximately four months, when the implants are permanently fused to the natural bone, Dental Solutions of Little Rock will take new records of your mouth. We will then prepare a final, personalized, stronger permanent set of teeth adjusted to a perfect fit--at no additional cost. This helps ensure that the teeth will last for decades and provide maximum support, beauty and function.

Q. How successful are dental implants?

A. Published studies indicate an implant success rate of 97% or greater when using the All-on-Four technique.

Q. Are there any diet restrictions with my temporary teeth?

A. During the four-month healing period, you will be limited to a soft diet. This allows the implants to remain immobile while fusing to the bone. Once the implants have fused and the permanent teeth are in place, there will be **NO DIETARY RESTRICTIONS!** You will be free to enjoy all of your favorite foods again!

If you have any additional questions, don't hesitate to call Dental Solutions of Little Rock at 1-888-77-TEETH (1-888-778-3384).



Dental
Solutions
OF LITTLE ROCK

Robert E. Richardson, DDS
Leslie Vaught Monroe, DDS

