

# New Technologies Make Dental Implants Faster and Easier for Patients

Does have a missing tooth or teeth bother you? Are your dentures hurting or uncomfortable to eat with? Is your quality of life being affected from tooth loss? Dental implants may be your solution.

Unfortunately, some patients are hesitant because they fear surgery or complications with the procedure. Cone Beam 3D technology, or CBCT is putting these

patients' fears to rest and allowing us to treat many patients who were told in the past that they were not candidates for dental implants. CBCT imaging enables dentists, oral surgeons, and

orthodontists to use three-dimensional imaging as a critical diagnostic and treatment planning tool. With precision, proper planning, and the latest technology, we are giving people their quality of life back so that they can enjoy eating and smiling with confidence again.

Statistics show that 69% of adults ages 35 to 44 have lost at least one permanent tooth to an accident, gum disease, a failed root canal or tooth decay. Furthermore, by age 74, 26% of adults have lost all of their permanent teeth. John Hopkins stated that placing dental implants under a removable denture was the #4 best thing a person could do for better health! Twenty years ago, these patients would have had no alternative but to employ a fixed bridge or removable denture to restore their ability to eat, speak clearly and smile.

## What is a Dental Implant?

Today one of the best options for patients who are missing



Dentally Speaking

by Jeffrey S. Haddad D.D.S.

permanent teeth is a dental implant. Dental implants are long-term artificial roots that are surgically placed into the jawbone with precision and accuracy. These implants can serve as the foundation for a new crown replacing your lost tooth, or as an anchor for a denture.

Composed of titanium that "fuses" with the jawbone, dental implants never decay like teeth anchoring fixed bridges and will help stabilize any denture.

Fixed bridges and removable dentures are not the perfect solution for patients and often bring with them several other problems. Removable dentures may slip or cause embarrassing clicking sounds while eating or speaking. Decay, gum disease and other factors often doom fixed bridgework to early failure. For these reasons, fixed bridges and removable dentures usually need to be replaced every seven to 15 years.

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## COLUMN

**Dr. Haddad,** *Continued from page 14***How long do they last...  
and does it hurt?**

After more than 20 years of service, the vast majority of dental implants first placed by dentists and oral surgeons in the United States continue to still function at peak performance. Dental Implants have a 97% success rate after 10 years compared to 50% success rate of a fixed bridge. More importantly, the recipients of those early dental implants are still satisfied they made the right choice. If properly cared for, dental implants can last a lifetime.

**Am I a Candidate for  
Dental Implants?**

In our office, we like to have a consultation with our patients to really listen to their goals and will determine, with a CBCT if they a good candidate for this procedure.

If patients are fearful, we will discuss our sedation options for comfort and to alleviate any anxiety. We can then use our 3D Cone Beam technology to help us in this planning process. It is because of the predictability of this technology that allows some patients the opportunity to have dental implants who have previously been told in the past that they were not good candidates.

*Jeffrey S. Haddad, DDS of Doolin & Haddad Advanced Dentistry, completed his dental education at the University of Michigan in 2001. Dr. Haddad is a fellow of the prestigious Las Vegas Institute for Advanced Dental Studies. He lectures nationally on cosmetic dentistry, TMJ and sleep disorders and dental implants. For more information, visit [www.rochesteradvanceddentistry.com](http://www.rochesteradvanceddentistry.com).*

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