



Nizar Merheb, MD,
DDS, FACS

Implant Supported Dentures Something to Smile About

By Nizar Merheb, MD, DDS, FACS

More than 240 million people in the developed countries of the world are missing teeth. According to the US Census Bureau, that number is expected to double throughout the next 20 years as Baby Boomers begin turning 65 and older. In the US alone, approximately 33 percent of the population over the age of 65 is edentulous (have no teeth). Patients with dentures face daily challenges such as:

- Lack of stability with dentures falling out while talking
- Denture movement affecting chewing ability
- Messy adhesives that alter the taste of food
- Frequent visits to the dentist for adjustments to the dentures to relieve sore spots

Normally, teeth in the jaw stimulate bone growth and help maintain the bone. After losing teeth, the jawbone deteriorates, losing height, width, and bone density. The changes in bone make the original dentures fit poorly, significantly affecting the quality of life. In edentulous patients, dental implants can slow down the deterioration process and give more stability to the dentures (implant-retained overdenture).



Lower denture retained with 2 implants.
Illustration courtesy of ZEST Anchors, LLC Escondido CA.

SKIN BY MARY IS PROUD TO BRING YOU



THE PERFECT BLEND OF RESULTS AND RELAXATION.



INFUSE SKIN AND BODY IS A FULL SERVICE SPA OFFERING THE BEST IN THERAPEUTIC TREATMENTS INCLUDING:

SPECIALIZED SKIN CARE
HYDRAFACIAL, MICROCURRENT, JETPEEL,
MICRODERMABRASION, WAXING AND MORE

EXPERIENCED MASSAGE THERAPISTS
RELAXATIONAL, DEEP TISSUE, SPORTS,
HOT STONE, MYOFASCIAL RELEASE,
REFLEXOLOGY AND MORE!



CALL 309-691-5901 TO MAKE YOUR APPOINTMENT
LOCATED IN JUNCTION CITY SHOPPING CENTER
5901 N PROSPECT RD SUITE 102 • PEORIA, IL 61614

Also, dental implants help preserve natural facial contours and provide a more youthful, less sunken appearance.

Dental implants are now recognized as the standard of care, offering better health, an enhanced appearance, greater self-confidence, and an improved quality of life. Dental implants are small titanium anchors placed in the jaw with special attachments allowing the denture to snap onto the implants (see figure above). This added stability improves the ability to chew and speak, minimizing the challenges associated with conventional dentures.

Generally, upper dentures are more stable than lower dentures because they are supported by the roof of the mouth. However for added stability, four implants are recommended. Patients with severe gag reflex may require four to six implants in the upper jaw to secure a modified denture in place. Lower dentures require two to four implants to be stable.

Early intervention is key; because once the teeth have been extracted the bone begins to deteriorate. Often dental implants can be placed at the time of teeth extraction or shortly thereafter. An exam and X-ray will help your surgeon make specific recommendations about the best treatment option for you.

To schedule a consultation, call the Peoria location at 309-683-3223 or Pekin at 309-353-4111. For more information, visit our website: www.MyFaceMD.com.