

## ABOUT **STRAUMANN**<sup>®</sup>

As the only company with a complete portfolio of surgical, restorative, oral tissue and bone regeneration, and digital dentistry solutions, Straumann provides your dentist the convenience of ordering from one source. From root to crown, Straumann solutions are supported by rigorous scientific and clinical evidence\* and a commitment to quality.



\*Data on file.

## Choose What Feels Right

Bridge vs. **Dental Implant**



US/IT 322

## THE CHOICE THAT **FEELS RIGHT**



A missing tooth just doesn't feel right. It can be uncomfortable, make it difficult to chew and perhaps worst of all, hold you back from smiling. It's important to replace that tooth. Not only is it an esthetic problem, it can lead to bone loss, changes in facial structure and drifting of the adjacent teeth.

You have a choice in tooth replacement: crown and bridge or dental implant. You're probably very familiar with the bridge, but you may not know everything it entails. A dental implant is a strong alternative. It is the option that most closely resembles a natural tooth.

With all the facts, you can make the most informed decision about crown and bridge versus dental implant. Remember, this is a choice that will affect you every day. So choose what feels right for you.

### **THE BENEFITS OF DENTAL IMPLANTS**

- **Bone preservation.** Because the implant replaces the tooth root, it transmits chewing forces to the jaw, helping maintain the bone.
- **Natural look and feel.** Besides looking natural, implants feel natural, so you can eat without worries.
- **Unaffected adjacent teeth.** Unlike bridges, implants do not require the grinding down of neighboring teeth, so your remaining dental structure stays natural.
- **Proven quality.** Straumann dental implants are built to exacting quality standards, based on decades of scientific research and study. Four million implants placed over a 30-year span support Straumann quality.

***Ask your dentist about choosing dental implants for you.***

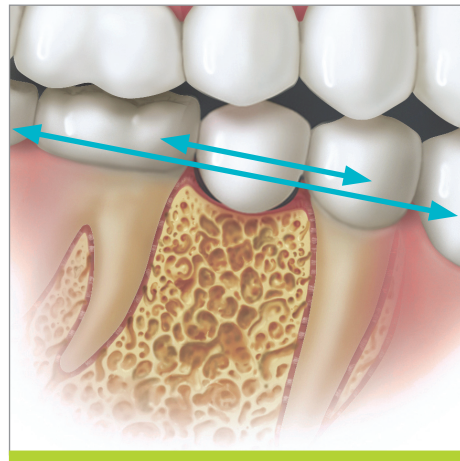
## BRIDGE OPTION

A bridge is a frame on which two crowns and a false tooth are attached. Why are there three parts? This is because the two healthy teeth on either side of the gap must be ground down to anchor the bridge. The bridge covers the prepared teeth that are left after grinding. The false tooth, called a pontic, sits in the missing tooth's space above the gum. But it does not replace the root of the missing tooth so bone loss can occur.

Bridges can be less expensive than dental implants in the short term. However, the life span of a bridge is typically less than that of an implant. Also, the adjacent teeth that were prepared can be more susceptible to future problems, like decay.



*Two healthy teeth must be ground down to anchor the bridge.*



*If either anchor tooth is lost, another healthy tooth must be ground down and a longer bridge put into place.*

## DENTAL IMPLANT OPTION

The first thing you notice about a dental implant is how closely it resembles your natural tooth. It replaces the entire missing tooth, including the root, without having to grind the adjacent teeth. Made of titanium or titanium zirconium, a dental implant is a replacement tooth root surgically inserted in the jaw. The implant and abutment work as a securable base for the final crown that will be your new tooth.

A dental implant is more expensive than a bridge, but it is designed to be a permanent solution. Because the implant replaces the tooth root, implant therapy can help minimize bone loss. In addition, the surrounding teeth are not affected and the look and feel is natural.



*After the implant is placed, bone will grow and integrate onto the surface to hold it securely.*



*A metal abutment connects the implant to a final crown that matches your natural teeth.*