

Dental Implant Patient Information Sheet

Your doctor is considering the treatment option of a dental implant procedure to restore your teeth. Dental implants are titanium screws placed into the upper and/or lower jaws that allow for crowns, bridges or dentures to be attached.

There are three stages to a dental implant

1. **The implant:** a dental implant is surgically inserted into your jaw bone.
2. **The abutment:** once the implant has been fused with the jaw bone, a healing abutment (healing cap) is placed on the implant surgically by opening the gum. Your prosthesis will be made after this procedure.
3. **The restoration:** placement of prosthesis (the part that looks like the teeth).

Not all of the cost associated with this treatment option is covered by the Public Hospital System.

If you are Medicare eligible, you will not have to pay anything for:

1. The implant
2. The healing abutment

The Public Hospital System will not cover:

3. The restoration - prosthetic crowns, bridges, dentures and any specific attachments to the implant

The restoration can be paid for by either:

- If you are eligible for treatment under the Queensland Health Public Dental Clinics, your costs may be covered. **Please contact your local Queensland Health Public Dental Clinics to find out if you are eligible for public dental treatment.**
- Self-funded using a private Prosthodontist.

The Maxillofacial Oral Surgery Unit will require a referral and treatment plan from a Prosthodontist. After you have seen a Prosthodontist they will advise the Maxillofacial Oral Surgery Unit where and how many implants will be required, they will also provide the prosthetic (crown/s, bridge/s, denture/s). Once this information has been received you will be placed on the elective surgical waiting list and categorised according to Queensland Health Policy.

The Maxillofacial Oral Surgery Unit will not perform this procedure without a planned restoration stage.