

Southern Implants Manufacturing facilities and products are certified by Dekra of Germany and the FDA of the United States Government. In a recent survey of over 1300 dental implant systems, Southern was placed in the select group of 9 to be correctly substantiated by controlled clinical research. The company is driven by a passion to rehabilitate anyone who has lost one or more teeth.

This information is supplied by Southern Implants (Pty) Ltd. For further information, additional brochure copies or alternative languages, please contact our head office at:



P O Box 605 Irene 0062
South Africa

Tel: +27 12 667 1046 Fax: +27 12 667 1029
e-mail: info@southernimplants.com
www.southernimplants.com

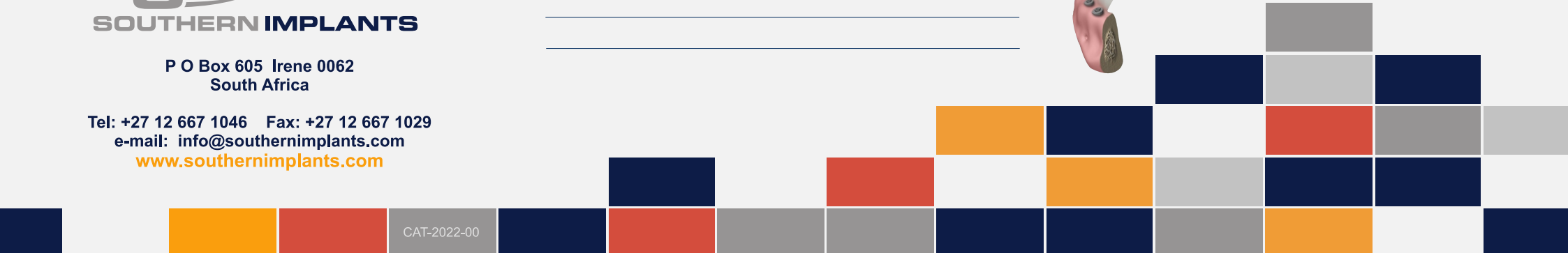
Patient Notes

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DENTAL IMPLANTS

Patient Information



Don't let missing teeth limit your life

If you are missing any of your natural teeth, implant dentistry can provide you with teeth that look and feel like your very own. Permanent replacement teeth can be yours without the embarrassment of loose dentures or having to cut into other healthy teeth in your mouth. An attractive cosmetic smile is possible. Implants will enable you to enjoy the simple pleasures of unrestricted eating. With Dental Implants you can have the confidence to pursue an active business and social life.

Many people choose implants to preserve their facial bones. Conventional dentures usually lead to accelerated bone loss.

What are Dental Implants ?

Dental Implants are Titanium posts with specially activated surfaces. They are placed (implanted) in your jawbone to function in a similar way to a natural tooth root. Your bone grows onto them in a process called **OSSEOINTEGRATION**. After a few months they will form a permanent part of your body.



Are Implants Safe and how long do they last ?

Present day implants are based on scientific evidence and have shown a success rate of more than 90%. Many Dentists now agree that implants are one of the most predictable forms of dental treatment, and in most cases it is a life-long solution. More than half a million people will receive dental implants this year. Make sure that you are one of them.

Might I be suitable ?

X-rays will be needed to see if you have sufficient quality and quantity of bone. Diseases such as uncontrolled diabetes or leukemia can affect the bone growing onto the implant and will need careful assessment. In general, most people are suitable candidates for implants.

Does it hurt ?

A small operation will be necessary. It is sometimes possible to place the implants in the dentist's rooms. In some cases a general anaesthetic is preferable, and this will require a visit to a day clinic or hospital. Some patients do experience one or two days of discomfort after the operation, usually related to the stitches.

Is the treatment expensive ?

An accurate estimate of cost can be obtained from your dentist or dental specialist. This is often given in the form of a quotation. Most medical schemes look favourably upon implant treatment as they know it is predictably successful and permanent. Studies have shown that implants are cost effective when compared with alternative treatment plans.

The components chosen will depend on the type of treatment needed. In addition to component costs, there will be professional fees and there might be hospitalisation and medicine costs. In general, implant treatment is not very much more expensive than the alternatives (bridges or new dentures at recurring shorter intervals). The big difference lies with long term success. Your Implants can be with you for the rest of your life.

Should I wait until I'm older ?

The youngest patients receiving implants are in their early teens, the oldest in their 90's. What often happens where there are missing teeth, is that the jawbone begins to sink. This is common with denture wearers, and the ridge which is important for holding the denture, gradually disappears, making the denture more and more problematic.

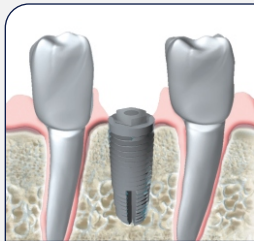
Dental Implants restore normal loading of the bone and thereby hinder this further loss of bone. The sooner you decide to have the implants placed, the less will be the permanent loss of bone and the easier it is for the dentist to achieve a good result.

How is the treatment obtained ?

Implant treatment is a technical and complex form of dentistry. Not all dentists wish, or are trained, to provide implant treatment. For this reason, your dentist might refer you to a specialist for part or all of the implant treatment. The surgery (placing the implant) is most often done by a Maxillo-Facial and Oral Surgeon or Periodontist. The design and construction of the artificial teeth is done by a Dentist or Prosthodontist working in conjunction with a Dental Technician. Ask your dentist about your implant treatment options today.

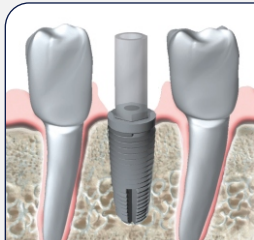
The implant is placed in the bone. Temporary teeth are worn.

1



After integration, the implant is exposed and the impression is taken. Temporary teeth can still be worn.

2



After a further week or two, the final teeth are attached. A new life begins.

3

