

Penn Dental
FAMILY PRACTICE

Reclaim Your Smile, Reclaim Your Life

**Your Guide to Missing Teeth, Tooth Replacement,
and How It Can Change Your Life**

A Penn Dental Family Practice Ebook

Missing Teeth? You're Not Alone

If you are missing one or more teeth, you are probably well aware of what a problem this loss can be. You may have already experienced the discomfort, limitations, and the lack of confidence that this condition can bring. Although your missing teeth may feel isolating, the reality is that this is a problem that affects a significant portion of Americans every day.

Who Experiences Tooth Loss:

According to the American College of Prosthodontists, 178 million people in the US are missing at least one tooth, and over 35 million of these do not have any teeth at all. Unfortunately, these numbers are projected to increase over the next two decades.

These losses can occur as a result of decay, gum disease, injury, cancer, or simply wear. Although missing teeth are most common among the elderly, the reality is that this condition can happen to anyone.

The Effects Of Missing Teeth:

Although you are probably well aware of some of the effects of missing teeth--including discomfort, inability to eat certain foods, and lowered self-esteem--the consequences don't stop there. Missing teeth have been connected to:

- ✓ Nutritional changes
- ✓ Obesity
- ✓ Diabetes
- ✓ Coronary artery disease
- ✓ Loss of bone density in the jaw bone, leading to discomfort and weakness
- ✓ Decrease of gum tissues
- ✓ Rapid facial aging
- ✓ Difficulty with speech



Although one or more missing teeth does not guarantee that you face all of the above problems, it does place you at a higher risk to experience them. Fortunately, tooth replacement is an excellent option for many patients and can help to combat the effects of tooth loss like those above.

How Tooth Replacement Benefits YOU

There are a variety of tooth replacement options which offer great benefits to patients like you. With professional tooth replacement, you will enjoy benefits in:

1. First Impressions



According to a recent study by Kelton for Invisalign, nearly one-third of Americans surveyed said that the first feature of someone's face that they notice is typically his or her teeth. Nearly one-quarter said that this is the most memorable feature after meeting someone new. When you receive the tooth replacements you need, you can look forward to making the first impression you always dreamed of, whether that is at work, during social activities, or on the dating scene.

2. Self Esteem & Confidence



Your tooth loss may make you shy, insecure, and even uncomfortable speaking or eating in public. With a tooth replacement procedure that restores your ability to eat, speak, and smile with confidence, you can look forward to a significant boost in your self esteem and



3. Success in Your Career & Social Life



It is an unfortunate reality that physical appearance is so closely linked to success. Yet, the same Kelton study mentioned above found that 73% of surveyed Americans would be more likely to trust someone with a nice smile than with a good job, outfit, or car. Those with a nice smile were also considered more likely to be hired when competing for the position against someone with similar skills but with an unattractive smile. The appearance of someone's smile can also be a significant factor upon whether or not someone gets a first date on an online dating site. When you receive tooth replacements, you will enjoy these benefits in all areas of your life.

4. Health & Wellness



Finally, tooth replacement procedures have a lot to offer your health and wellness. In addition to improving your happiness and self-esteem, both important parts of overall health, tooth replacements can also offer:

- ✓ Prevention of shifting of other teeth
- ✓ Improved nutrition through ability to eat more easily
- ✓ Protection of healthy teeth
- ✓ Delay of facial aging
- ✓ Prevention of gum disease

Tooth Replacement Options

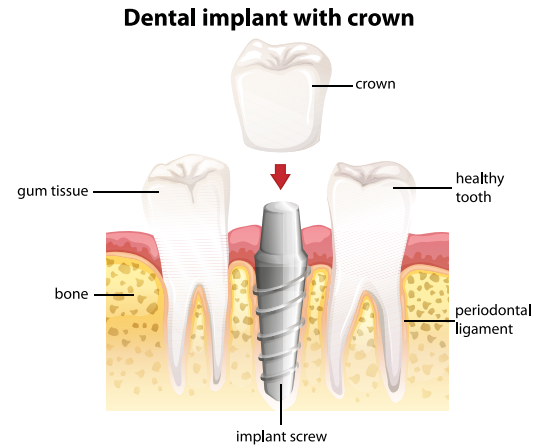
At Penn Dental Family Practice, you have a number of excellent tooth replacement options available to you. From this list, you and your doctor can work together to choose the best tooth replacement treatment to suit your needs and desires.



1. Dental Implants



Implants can be a great option for those missing one tooth, several, or even all of their teeth. Titanium posts are surgically placed in the jaw, providing a sturdy anchor for the replacement tooth which has the look, feel, and function of a natural tooth. Dental implants are the tooth replacement option most similar to a natural tooth and can last up to decades; however, they are the most expensive option.

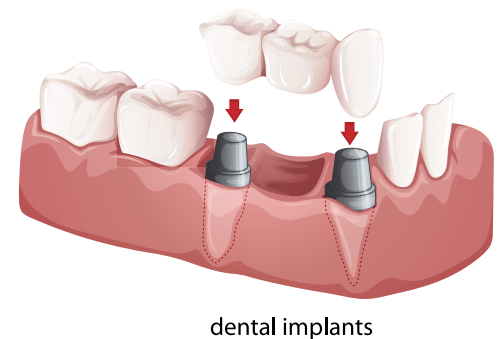


2. Fixed Bridges



Dental bridges are another tooth replacement option which can be effective for patients who are missing one or even a few teeth in between otherwise healthy teeth. The bridge is a permanent structure which fills the space of the lost teeth, secured via crowns which are placed over the prepared teeth on either side of the gap. Once secured, bridges look, feel, and function like natural teeth, although they do require some extra effort to clean.

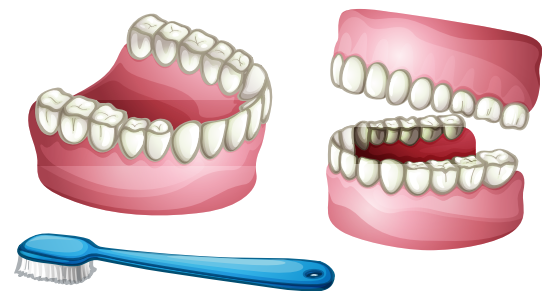
Fixed partial denture (bridge)



3. Dentures



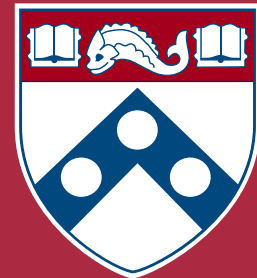
Finally, dentures may be the most familiar tooth replacement option. These come in two forms: partial and complete dentures. These are often the least expensive tooth replacement option, and can be the best solution for individuals whose overall health prevents them from undergoing surgical options. However, because of their temporary nature, removable dentures are more likely to break or become uncomfortable than other options.



Reclaim Your Smile Today

With so many excellent tooth replacement options, why continue dealing with the dental, social, psychological, and health-related struggles of missing teeth? Instead of waiting any longer, contact your dentist at Penn Dental Family Practice to begin a conversation. Based on your dental needs, oral health, medical history, and other factors, your doctor can create a tooth replacement plan that is perfect for you. Get started by making an appointment at one of our two convenient locations.

2 Offices
35+ Doctors
Every Dental Speciality
That's Penn Dental.



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