

Facts about Toothlessness and Dentures



Unhealthy gums may have caused this patient's teeth to fall out, leaving him unable to chew and limiting the absorption of proper nutrition.



After being fitted with a set of dentures the patient now has a beautiful smile and the ability to take in more nutrients from his food.

Fortunately for 26 percent of adults aged 65 to 74, modern dentistry can provide natural-looking dentures. Dentures cannot replace missing teeth, but they are good substitutes. Properly fitting dentures allow the wearer to eat a wider variety of foods, improve their appearance and boost their self-esteem.

Some accommodations must be made when wearing artificial teeth. Dentures wear out and should be relined every two to three years and remade about every five years. Oral structures change over time so denture wearers still need regular checkups to make sure their underlying tissues and bone are healthy and not stressed by ill-fitting dentures.

The Effects of Missing Teeth



Your teeth are dependent on each other to maintain their natural position in your mouth. This positioning helps you chew while distributing your biting forces.



When you lose a tooth the remaining teeth will move into the open space. If left untreated, more complex dental treatment may be needed to restore your normal dental health.



A bridge can be used to replace missing teeth and restore dental health. Teeth on both sides of the space are prepared and a bridge is permanently cemented or bonded into place.



Dental implants are becoming more popular as a method used to replace missing teeth. An implant replaces the root of a missing tooth so that a crown can be attached to it.

Restorative Options for Missing Teeth

Conservative, Resin-bonded Bridge



Conservative Inlay/Onlay Bridge



Porcelain fused to metal or All-ceramic Bridge



Removable Partial Denture

