

Dental implants more popular in recession

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Dr Bruno Silva

Recession-hit Brits are seeking a 'cheaper-in-the-long-run' permanent solution to their teeth problems by opting for dental implants.

Dental implants have grown in popularity over the past two years as patients seek to save money and cut the costs of continued corrective dental surgery.

According to new figures, the number of people looking for dental implants in the UK has more than tripled over the past two years in spite of the recession.

Dr Bruno Silva, a dental surgeon and implant specialist in Brighton, says: 'We have noticed a big increase in patients having implants.'

Patients previously excluded from having implants due to the lack of bone density are able to have implants with bone augmentation.

This is where the surgeon will add artificial bone to the jaw bone to allow for the implant to be placed.

The Brighton Implant Clinic has CT machine on site, allowing them to make 3D X-rays to determine the bone density for each patient.

Dental implants can be really expensive and patients are quoted a complete range of prices, some so high, people opt out of having implants; whereas Dr Silva prides himself on offering affordable prices for implants.

He says: 'People are often astonished at the prices we offer. A single screw implant including all the surgery and final crown start from £995, however if you are having multiple teeth the price per tooth could be much less. This is the same price as a bridge and in the long term implants are more beneficial.'

Bridges require the grinding of the adjacent teeth, which can lead to decay and nerve damage. The implant is a single entity and is easier to rectify any problems than a bridge.

A visit to Brighton Implant Clinic is affordable and patients can pay for their treatment as they go along, rather than the whole payment upfront.

The Clinic has also recently introduced the five-year implant guarantee plan, which allows patients to safeguard their investments.

Patients find that the costs of implants are worth it as they can last 15-20 years or more and your lifestyle remains the same as though you had real teeth, which in the case of dentures this is not always possible.

Implant surgery is not just an option to replace a single tooth or several; a procedure becoming more popular is to replace all the teeth with an implant bridge, this is called same day teeth or teeth in a day.

This means a minimum of four implants are placed in the upper jaw for example, two on either side and this holds a bridge of 12 teeth. This is a brilliant and permanent alternative to dentures.

Implants are not exclusive to older people who have lost teeth through disease or poor oral hygiene, but also younger people who have lost teeth in accidents are coming forward to have implants fitted.

This is a successful way to overcome dentures or crown work. Implants can be applicable to most patients, but smokers in particular have a longer healing process, especially bases of bone augmentation as there is reduced blood flow to the area, this is all highlighted and explained to the patients at the consultation.

The clinics are finding people are booking their surgery few months or more down the line in time for them to give up smoking so, in the long term, they are making great lifestyle choices that comes with having implants.

For more information on dental implants, call Brighton Implant Clinic on 0844 815 1414 or visit www.brightonimplantclinic.com



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