

**PATIENT INFORMATION BOOKLET:**

**WHAT ARE OSSEOINTEGRATED IMPLANTS?**



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# OSSEOINTEGRATED IMPLANTS: IMPROVING YOUR ORAL HEALTH, COMFORT, FUNCTION AND ESTHETICS

## NATURAL TEETH:

Your natural teeth, in a healthy well-maintained condition, are the best natural implants you can possibly have. It is in the interest of your health and well-being to keep your teeth in the healthiest condition possible.

## REPLACING NATURAL TEETH:

When a tooth is lost, it is important to replace the tooth as promptly as possible. If you do not replace your lost tooth, the teeth on either side will begin to tilt and drift, and the tooth on the opposing arch will begin to shift. The results of these tooth movements are increased chances of gum disease and bone loss, and eventual loss of the teeth themselves.

Missing single teeth are best replaced with an individual implant, abutment, and crown. There is no doubt that replacement of a single missing tooth with an implant, abutment, and crown represents state of the art therapy. To replace a missing single tooth with a three tooth fixed bridge, your dentist must remove the enamel from the teeth on either side of the missing tooth. These teeth are then compromised. A three-tooth bridge turns a one tooth problem into a three tooth problem!

In addition, if a three tooth bridge fractures, or one of the roots suffers decay in the future, you would have to replace the complete bridge. Implants and implant-supported crowns do not decay.

When multiple teeth are missing in the same area, you do not necessarily require placement of an implant for each missing tooth. For example, two implants can be placed to support a three tooth bridge.



**Tooth replacement with a three-tooth bridge.**  
Neighboring teeth are damaged.



**Tooth replacement with a dental implant.**  
Neighboring teeth are not damaged.



## PARTIAL DENTURES:

A partial denture does not replace missing teeth as well as implants. While a partial denture fills the space where teeth are missing, the number supporting teeth have not been increased. The load has been *increased* on the remaining teeth, leading to bone loss, decay, and their premature loss as well.

A partial denture is also removable, has more bulk to it than an implant supported fixed bridge, is subject to movement when you eat and speak, and must be taken out at night.



## **USING IMPLANTS TO IMPROVE COMFORT WITH PARTIAL DENTURES:**

If partial dentures must be utilized, their stability and comfort can be significantly improved using implants. Excess forces must be removed from your remaining natural teeth, using implants placed in each quadrant to help support the partial denture. Chewing and speaking are more comfortable than with conventional partial dentures, unsightly metal clasps can be removed, and your remaining natural teeth remain healthy for a longer period of time.

## **WHEN TEETH ARE MISSING:**

When teeth are lost, the tooth supporting bone is also lost. The gums “shrink”, and the bone ridge “dips” due to this bone loss. When implants are placed and properly maintained, the bone is preserved, because the bone is being used as when the natural teeth were present.

## **WHAT IF ENOUGH BONE IS NOT PRESENT TO PLACE IMPLANTS?**

Predictable, proven procedures are available which help your body to regrow the bone it has lost. These procedures are safe and effective, and do not require bone grafting from another part of your body. This new bone will support implants in function over time. Drs. Fugazzotto, Rost, and Brodsky have been intimately involved with the development of these techniques, and have published many of the most quoted clinical papers about these procedures in scientific journals, documenting thousands of cases.

Bone regeneration techniques are used to improve esthetics, to rebuild bone after trauma, and to help stabilize dentures for patients who do not wish to have implants placed. Bone regeneration also helps to improve the health of a patient’s remaining teeth.

## **CHEWING EFFICIENCY:**

If a patient with all of his or her own natural healthy teeth at 100% efficiency, this efficiency decreases with every tooth lost. If a patient has no remaining teeth and well-fitting dentures, he or she has a chewing efficiency about 15-18%. With restored implants the patient gets back 90% or more of the chewing efficiency of a full set of natural teeth.

## **GENERAL HEALTH:**

Because it is important that you heal normally after implants are placed, we will review your health with you before beginning any therapy. Patients with uncontrolled diabetes or immune diseases are not good candidates for implant placement. Patients with diabetes or other problems that are under control respond as well to implants as a patient with no health concerns. If you are taking bisphosphonates (Fosomax and other brand names) we may take special precautions before implants can be placed.

## **SMOKING:**

Smoking has a number of dangerous health effects, including a negative influence on the healing of a patient’s gum and bone. Dental implants can be successful in patients who smoke. We will assess how much you smoke and discuss your realistic chances of implant success.

## **HOME CARE:**

Home care around the implants is no different than homecare around natural teeth. Brushing and flossing remove harmful bacteria and help prevent development of infections and disease. If implants are not cleaned properly, infections develop and the implants fail.



## **X-RAYS:**

It is crucial to have properly angled x-rays which show us the remaining teeth and bone, before beginning any treatment. We use digital x-rays to decrease radiation, and to give us the most detailed views possible. In addition, we have a head and neck CAT scan machine in the office. Our machine takes a complete scan in less than a minute. The machine is very comfortable. You sit in a regular chair as the CAT scan is taken around you. We were one of the first dental offices in the United States to utilize such technology, and have found it very useful over the years.

## **LOSS OF NERVE SENSATION:**

There are cases reported in the dental literature where loss of nerve sensation has occurred following certain surgical procedures in the back of the lower jaw. Any time lower molars are extracted, root canals are performed on lower molars, or implants are placed in lower posterior areas, it is possible to experience such numbness. We have placed over 8,000 implants in lower posterior areas. None of these implant placements have resulted in permanent numbness for patients. However, it is important to understand that such an occurrence is always a possibility.

## **ARE ALL IMPLANTS SUCCESSFUL?**

No. Whenever work is performed in the human body, there are a number of variables that can affect treatment outcomes. If a patient is not healthy, smokes heavily or abuses alcohol, he or she will experience less success with implants. When Drs. Fugazzotto, Rost, and Brodsky examine you and discuss the most ideal treatment for you, they will review your habits and health concerns, to improve your chances of implant success.

Age is **not** a negative factor with regard to success of implant therapy.

To achieve the highest rate of implant success possible, a thorough exam with a proper dental diagnosis must be made between your regular dentist and Drs. Fugazzotto, Rost, and Brodsky. The appropriate implant design will be selected for you as an individual. There is no one implant design that is ideal for every situation. Drs. Fugazzotto, Rost, and Brodsky are intimately involved with implant research and implant design, and utilize various implant designs in different situations, to ensure optimal treatment results for each individual patient. It is important that all dentists treating you understand the advantages and disadvantages of the different implant designs.

It is also crucial that the treating doctors be highly experienced in implant therapy, as well as all other phases of treatment which must be carried out to help you restore your oral health. Drs. Fugazzotto, Rost, and Brodsky teach training courses to dentists from around the world about implant therapy and bone regeneration.

## **WILL MY IMPLANTS LAST A LIFETIME?**

No one knows. We have been placing implants since 1985, and have helped patients through the placement of over 30,000 implants. Long-term studies show that, as long as you continue to clean effectively around your implants and appropriately address clenching and grinding problems, implants are successful and remain healthy.



## **IS AGE A DETERRENT?**

No. Poor health is a deterrent. Many people eighty and ninety years of age are better suited for implants than someone years younger who suffers from health problems.

Age is not an accumulation of birthdays. It is an attitude. We should plan to live for as long as we are able. Allowing ourselves to deteriorate knowingly makes no sense. As long as you live and breathe, you are important to someone. You owe it to yourself and your family and friends to take the best care of yourself that you possibly can.

## **REJECTION BY THE BODY:**

All of the implants we use are made of biologically compatible, commercially pure titanium and Zirconium. Because we are intimately involved in implant research and development with the International Team of Implantology, we utilize the most advanced implant surfaces and materials available to maximize the success of your treatment. *No rejection of these materials by the human body has been documented.*

If an implant fails (an uncommon occurrence, as our success rate with the types of implants we use is over 99%) it is not because of rejection. However, if the bone does not “fuse” to the implant, the implant is loose and cannot support a missing tooth. The implant is removed and another one is placed, which successfully “fuses” to the bone, and supports a replacement tooth.

## **CAN IMPLANTS CAUSE CANCER?**

No. There is no instance in which dental implants have ever been the cause of any type of cancer.

## **HOW IS AN IMPLANT INSERTED?**

The implant is inserted into the bone, in a site which has been gently prepared for this purpose. Only “Novocaine” is required. Dissolving sutures, or in some cases no sutures, are utilized.

## **DECISIONS:**

If you have decided you want to consider implant treatment, you should be encouraged by the fact that there are many people in this country and throughout the world who have had hip transplants, corneal transplants, etc., and have found the quality of their lives dramatically improved. Placement of dental implants is not as involved as these procedures. Proper use of dental implants will improve your comfort, function, esthetics and quality of life.



## **GUARANTEE:**

It is impossible to guarantee the results of any type of medical procedure which you may undergo. No one should pretend to guarantee any implant or prosthesis which is placed into the mouth or any other part of your body. However, the published success rates of this type of procedure are very high. Papers Drs. Fugazzotto, Rost, and Brodsky have published document success rates over 99%. We will perform therapy to the best of our abilities, will utilize the highest quality and most up to date materials and techniques, and will continue to assist you both during and after active treatment in any way possible. We will do everything we can to ensure that your treatment succeeds. Naturally, you will have to make the same commitment. If you do not hold up your end of the bargain with regard to maintenance, and treatment of parafunction (clenching/grinding) etc., your implant therapy may likely fail. You must return to our office and that of your restorative dentist at regular intervals, for examination, cleanings, etc. Otherwise, your implants could develop problems without you knowing it.

## **FURTHER QUESTIONS:**

If you have any questions, please feel free to ask them. We will always do our best to inform you of all of your options and what treatment will entail. Should you wish to speak with patients who have undergone the same type of therapy which you are considering, please let us know. We are happy to give you the names and telephone numbers of such patients, so that you may contact them at your convenience. You may also visit our website at [www.Fugazzotto-Rost.com](http://www.Fugazzotto-Rost.com), to listen to individual patient testimonials about their implant experiences.



**We are happy to further discuss your care, and answer any questions you may have, at any time.**

## TREATMENT SEQUENCE FOR OSSEOINTEGRATED IMPLANTS

1. Implant therapy usually involves one appointment during which the implants are gently placed into the bone. Dissolving stitches are used. In many instances you may require no stitches whatsoever. The gum will heal within a few days after this procedure. Bone heals more slowly. We want the implants to be firmly attached to bone before we ask them to support biting pressures. Therefore, we allow them to heal for 4-6 weeks.
2. After implant placement there is one checkup. A second appointment will be to check progress of healing, and to make sure the implants are ready to be restored by your dentist. Both visits are quick and simple. Additional check up appointments may be necessary, depending upon your individual situation.
3. We perform the majority of the implant procedures in our office using only local anesthesia (i.e. "Novocaine").
4. If you have a denture to replace your missing teeth, please bring it to your appointment. You will be able to wear the denture when you leave the office after having the implants placed.
5. After your new teeth are placed by your dentist, we will have you back during the first few weeks to check the gums in the area.
6. We will show you how to clean your implants. If you do not clean your implants properly, they will almost certainly fail. Oral hygiene is important for the health of your implants, as well as for natural teeth.
7. Your overall health can affect your implants. If you drink or smoke heavily, this can be very detrimental to your dental implants, especially during the initial stages of healing.
8. It is important you understand the procedures we have proposed for you, as well as your treatment alternatives. We recommend that you read all the literature and information which we have provided for you prior to having your dental implant procedures performed.





## **COME IN WITH HOPELESS TEETH... WALK OUT WITH A NEW SET OF TEETH**

When patients present with hopeless teeth, they can be treated without ever having to wear a denture.

After a thorough examination of your mouth and your esthetics, and a complementary CAT scan we take for you at our office, plans are made in conjunction with your restorative dentist and the laboratory technician to provide you a new set of comfortable, functional, highly esthetic teeth the same day your hopeless teeth are removed.

Using only “Novocaine” unless you desire additional anesthesia, we gently remove your teeth, place implants in the ideal positions, and use materials to rebuild your damaged bone. During the same visit, your restorative dentist takes impressions of your implants and works with the laboratory technician to customize a set of teeth for you. Your restorative dentist “screws these teeth into your new implants” before you leave the office. Following healing, your final set of teeth are made by your restorative dentist.

Patients tell us that any pain or swelling they experience is minimal, and that they began chewing on their new teeth almost immediately. Frequent comments from our patients after this treatment include “you brought me back”, “you changed my life”, “you made me look so much younger”, and “I wish I had done this years ago”.

This treatment to provide you a full set of implants and teeth the same day your hopeless teeth are removed is a therapy we regularly perform. We teach this procedure to surgeons and restorative dentists from the United States and around the world at our Institute for Comprehensive Implant Therapy and Esthetics. This is also a topic we frequently lecture about nationally and internationally.

Fee free to ask us about this procedure for yourself, your friends, and your family.



## ABOUT OUR CAT SCAN MACHINE

Computed Axial Tomography (CAT) scan is a safe, fast, diagnostic examination, which provides us unique images of the bone, the sinuses and other important structures. The ICAT machine is designed for head and neck imaging and is much simpler and more comfortable for the patient than conventional CAT scan machines and uses much less radiation. You sit in an open chair while the CAT scan is taken.

ICAT imaging is utilized for:

- Visualization of the extent of the bone loss which has occurred, and the remaining quantity of bone
- Determination of bone quantity and density as it relates to implant placement
- Visualization of sinus cavities to detect chronic and/or acute sinus problems
- Planning of implant placement prior to actual therapy, through the utilization of the ICAT scan with special computer software

The scan takes less than 60 seconds, and can be reviewed with you after it is taken.

Computer programs are utilized with the information gained from the CAT scan to plan ideal implant placement. This allows a much greater degree of safety when implants are placed where a significant amount of bone has been lost.

In many cases, working with your restorative dentist we are also able to place the implants and have teeth placed on them during the same visit.



## ACCELERATING YOUR HEALING AND MINIMIZING DISCOMFORT

Advances in our understanding of healing after surgical therapy, and the availability of simple, newer technologies to help accelerate such healing, offer significant advantages to all patients.

Your body activates a number of healing mechanisms in a multi-stage healing process the moment any surgery is performed. All healing begins with platelets. Proteins in your platelets are a response team which performs a number of activities to stop bleeding, attract infection fighting cells, and initiate new cell and tissue formation.

Platelet Rich Plasma (**PRP**) is a revolutionary technology which concentrates your own platelets and growth factors from a small sample of your blood. A qualified staff member draws about four tablespoons of your blood. The blood is placed in a specially designed centrifuge which separates the blood and concentrates your platelets and growth factors over 1000x to make PRP.

**PRP** is mixed with bone graft material to accelerate bone regeneration and improve the quality of your regrown bone. When soft tissue grafts are performed to cover recessed roots, **PRP** accelerates soft tissue healing and improves the final quality of your soft tissues.

**PRP** boosts your personal healing system with a concentrated delivery of your own growth factors to the treated site.

Studies show that **PRP** results in faster bone regeneration, regeneration of denser bone, and improved soft tissue healing. In addition, postoperative discomfort is significantly reduced when **PRP** is utilized.

Please feel free to ask us any questions regarding **PRP** therapy.



## **FULL-ARCH TOOTH REPLACEMENT WITH DENTAL IMPLANTS**

Osseointegrating dental implants represent one of the most significant advances to occur in dentistry in many decades. Initially introduced in the early 1980's, this type of implant therapy is highly predictable, and affords the opportunity to regain and maximize comfort, function and esthetics in both the short and long term, in a variety of situations.

There has been a great deal of talk in the press about "Teeth in an Hour" and "Teeth Today". By utilizing these techniques, patients are able to have implants placed and restored in the same day. Such therapy potentially represents another significant advance in implant therapy. However, it is important to realize that immediate implant restoration is not a miracle. This therapy should only be utilized in appropriate situations where it is in the best interest of the patient.

We have taught courses in our Dental Continuing Education Center about Immediate Implant Therapy for a number of years. Surgeons and restorative dentists have traveled from various parts of the United States and other countries, including England, Italy, Germany, Australia, Spain, Canada and Mexico, to take these courses and learn how best to utilize Immediate Implant Therapy. We were also one of the first offices in the country trained in the "Teeth in an Hour" techniques, and are one of the few private dental offices to have a head and neck CAT scan machine on site to aid diagnosis and treatment of such patients.

These many years of experience with Immediate Implant Therapy have underscored the absolute necessity to perform appropriate diagnosis and treatment planning for every patient on an individual basis, and to tailor the therapy to that specific patient's need.

Utilized appropriately, Immediate Implant Therapy (Teeth in an Hour, Teeth Today, etc.) is highly predictable and a great service to patients. After taking a CAT scan in our office, we utilize computer programs to precisely plan implant placement and restoration in conjunction with your restorative dentist. A computer based guide is fabricated, as are the teeth which will be placed on the implants. The implants are placed by us and the teeth are inserted by your restorative dentist the same day.

Even when immediate implant restoration is not possible, the use of this type of planning helps ensure ideal implant placement. In addition, patients know in advance whether simple procedures must be carried out to regrow lost bone at the time of implant placement.

Today, many implant treatment options are available to help restore oral health, and maximize comfort, function and esthetics in both the short and long term. The key to attaining these goals is to match various treatment options to individual patients, and to carry out care in an expert manner.

Please feel free to ask us any questions you may have about [Immediate Implant Therapy](#).



## ABOUT YOUR DOCTOR

Dr. Paul Fugazzotto received his Doctorate of Dental Surgery from New York University in 1979, and his Certificate of Advanced Graduate Study from Boston University in 1981. He is a visiting lecturer at Tufts University, Harvard University, and the University of Ancona in Ancona, Italy.

Dr. Anya Rost received her Certificate in Periodontics and Masters of Dental Sciences from Virginia Commonwealth University, where she served as a chief resident. She completed her doctoral education at the University Of Connecticut School Of Dental Medicine. During her time there, she co-founded and led a popular Periodontal Interest Group, and earned a Northeastern Society of Periodontics Certificate of Achievement. She is a summa cum laude graduate of the Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences' Forsyth Dental Hygiene Program, and a recipient of the Forsyth Alumni Award for Academic Achievement and Community Service.

Dr. Andrew Brodsky grew up in Auburn, Maine, graduated from Hamilton College in Clinton, New York and received his DMD degree from the University of Connecticut (UConn). While at UConn, he received the American Academy of Periodontology Student award and was inducted into the Phi Chi chapter of the Omicron Kappa Upsilon national dental honor society. Dr. Brodsky completed a three year residency in periodontics and dental implant surgery at the University of Washington in Seattle, where he also earned his Master's degree in dental science.

Drs. Fugazzotto, Rost, and Brodsky have a combined 40 plus years of experience with bone regeneration (both around teeth, and in preparation for implant placement) and dental implant therapy. They have published extensively on these subjects in scientific journals. Dr. Fugazzotto is the director of the Fugazzotto Institute for Comprehensive Implant Therapy, where training courses are taught to dentists from the United States and around the world on the most up to date techniques regarding dental implant placement and bone regeneration.

Dr. Fugazzotto is a fellow of the International Team for Implantology (ITI). Fellowship in the ITI is by election only. Dr. Fugazzotto is the past national director of the US ITI Study Clubs and Editor in Chief of the journal Implant Realities.

Dr. Fugazzotto has also authored three text books, including; "Decision Making in Implant and Regenerative Therapy."

Dr. Rost has a decade of experience in the field of dentistry, including years of work as a dental hygienist and collaboration on a number of research projects. Dr. Rost is a member of the International Team of Implantology.

Dr. Rost and Dr. Brodsky are each Board Certified Diplomates of the American Board of Periodontology.

Drs. Fugazzotto and Rost lecture extensively, both here and throughout the world, on the topics of periodontal therapy, regrowing lost bone, esthetics, and implant therapy.



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**CONSENT TO DENTAL IMPLANT SURGERY**

I hereby request and authorize Dr. Paul A. Fugazzotto, Dr. Anya Rost, and Dr. Andrew Brodsky to perform dental implant(s) for me, and to do any other procedure that, in his judgment, may be necessary during the operation.

The effect and nature of the implantation to be performed, the risks involved, as well as possible alternative methods of treatment, have been fully explained to me. No warranty has been made by anyone as to the results which may be obtained.

I consent to the administration of local anesthetics and/or oral sedative drugs to be applied by or under the direction of Dr. Paul A. Fugazzotto, Dr. Anya Rost, Dr. Andrew Brodsky and their assistants, and to the use of such local anesthetics and oral sedative drugs as he may deem advisable in my case.

I also understand that smoking tobacco or drinking alcoholic beverages cause tissue destruction and may compromise healing and the success of my treatment.

If implants have been placed in the lower jaw, I may experience some tingling or numbness on the skin of the lip or chin, after surgery. This can occur from pressure or compression on a nerve tract which is deep in the lower jaw. This tingling or numbness is usually temporary, but it may remain for weeks or months. If the implant is placed in the lower back jawbone, it is possible that this tingling or numb feeling could be permanent.

I have been given the opportunity to ask any questions I may have, before signing this form.

**I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND ALL OF THE ABOVE.**

Patient's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Witness Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_





## Your Implant Warranty Program

Working in conjunction with your restorative dentist, we warranty your implants which support single crowns for your lifetime. Should your implant become loose and have to be removed, a new implant will be placed at no cost to you.

In order to keep this warranty in effect, you must agree to the following:

- I. You will allow us to perform the necessary therapy, in conjunction with your restorative dentist, to eliminate your oral health problems and restore your bite.
- II. If it is determined you “clench” or “grind” your teeth, or to have a sleep disorder, you will allow your restorative dentist and to treat these problems with you.
- III. You will wear any necessary bite appliance as prescribed.
- IV. You will be faithful to the checkup and cleaning schedule which your restorative dentist and we feel is most appropriate to ensure your long term oral health. This may include additional cleaning per year in our office.
- V. You will not smoke. This implant warranty is void for smokers.

If you agree to and abide by the provisions of this warranty, the warranty will remain in effect for your lifetime. However, should you not follow the provisions listed above, the warranty will be void.

Appropriately performed implant therapy is highly predictable in the long term. We can vouch for this high level of predictability, having placed over 32,000 implants since 1985. However, such success depends upon your cooperation. As a result, we are more than happy to offer you a lifetime warranty on your implants which support single crowns.

A lifetime warranty for only the implants is offered for overdentures or hybrid or fixed bridgework. The prostheses themselves often require replacement of worn teeth over time. Tooth replacement in these instances does not require implant removal or replacement.

We hope you will take advantage of this warranty.

Sincerely,

Paul A. Fugazzotto, DDS      Anya Rost, DMD, MSD      Andrew Brodsky, DMD, MSD

**I have read and understand the provisions and limitations of this lifetime single implant warranty. I have had the opportunity to ask any questions I may have regarding this warranty. All such questions have been answered to my satisfaction.**

**Patient Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**Witness Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

