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## Implant Restoration Care

Once your implant has been placed, follow the directions given and report any abnormalities immediately. The final restoration phase will begin typically 2–4 months following implant placement. If you are wearing any type of temporary prosthesis from our office please call us if you have any difficulty with it.

**Removable Implant Restorations.** If you can remove your restoration follow these instructions:

- Your denture or partial attaches to your implants with various nylon retainers that are embedded into your prosthesis. These retainers will require replacement as time goes on. The time frame varies so if you notice that your prosthesis is loosening it may be time to have the retainers replaced.
- We recommend that you remove your teeth at night and thoroughly clean them with a denture brush. Food and tarter can build up around the retainers and prevent them from completely attaching to your implants.
- Use a commercial cleaner such as Stain Away or Efferdent at least once a week.
- Your implants will have receptors attached to them that will either look like a gold bar or a metal basket. These need to be kept thoroughly clean. Food and tarter build up will prevent your attachments from completely seating and your prosthesis will be loose. They also need to be brushed like natural teeth to keep the gum tissue healthy around the implants. **DO NOT USE TOOTHPICKS OR ANY METAL TYPE PICKS AROUND THE IMPLANTS.** Our office can recommend additional cleaning devices if needed.
- Your implants are susceptible to gum disease the same way teeth are. If proper hygiene and regular dental cleanings are not followed your implants can be lost to periodontal disease.
- The retainers attached to your implants are held in by screws. It is extremely important to return to our office periodically to have these evaluated. If you notice any loosening of your receptors, notify our office. Loose screws are prone to fracture and can be difficult or impossible to remove.
- Fixed bridges require additional cleaning under the pontic (Missing tooth). Since this “fake tooth” is connected to the adjacent teeth a bridge threader is used to thread floss under it to remove plaque. These are readily available at most pharmacies. We would be happy to demonstrate how to use them.