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Peri - Implant Maintenance in the Periodontal Specialist's Office

We continually hear from our dental implant patients that they are now enjoying an enhanced quality of life with dental implants that look and function like natural teeth. Dental implants are highly successful and can last a lifetime, if followed continually. There is no greater importance in your treatment than follow-up care (or periodontal and/or dental/peri-implant maintenance as we call it) and the patient plays a key role. We recommend that you visit your dentist at recommended intervals and return to our office once a year for periodontal/peri-implant maintenance. **Peri-implant maintenance** is started after completion of active periodontal and implant therapy and continues at varying intervals for the life of the dentition or its implant replacements. There are two reasons for you to have regular hygiene visits in your dentist's office and also come to our office annually for peri-implant maintenance:

Protect Your Health

Although dental implants are not susceptible to decay and never need root canals, the gums and bone that support dental implants are still subject to disease. Poor compliance with professionally recommended implant maintenance--including not brushing or flossing regularly or not having regular dental check-ups and an annual visit to the periodontist--have led to peri-implant diseases, which can cause bone destruction and eventually loss of the implant. Peri-implant diseases are inflammatory processes. As periodontists, we are dentistry's experts in managing inflammation and diagnosing and treating periodontal disease and peri-implant diseases. We specialize in the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of periodontal disease, and in the placement of dental implants. We work closely with you and your dentist to ensure the long-term success of your dental implant and periodontal treatment.

Protect Your Investment

Dental implant treatment in a particular area of the mouth is often done only once in a patient's lifetime, because the treatment has a very high success rate. However, without proper peri-implant maintenance, including regular check-ups in your dentist's office and a once-a-year visit to the periodontist, implants can be at risk when periodontal problems arise. In some cases, periodontal disease progresses to the point that necessitates removal of the dental implant, disease treatment, and replacement of a dental implant. To protect your investment, we recommend that you return to our office for an annual dental implant maintenance visit. The costs of the maintenance visit and your regular dental visits are very small fraction of the cost of treating periodontal disease and replacing an implant. Think of these visits as the most cost-effective, preventative strategy to help protect your dental implants for a lifetime.

Your annual visit to our office should be in addition to your regular hygiene appointments with your general dentist. We work in collaboration with your dentist, not as a substitute, and together we will maintain your periodontal and peri-implant health.

Please call our office to schedule your annual periodontal maintenance visit: Park Ridge: (847) 698-1180
Oakbrook Terrace: (630) 3930

For more information on periodontal disease and its management, periodontal maintenance, dental implants, our office, or to refer a friend or family member visit our new website: www.periodontalmedicine.org



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