

Dentures at Core Dental Berwick

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Description:

Dentures at Core Dental Berwick *Comfortable, natural-looking dentures crafted by on-site dental prosthetist Alessio Pecorella — with the convenience and expertise of a practice that's been trusted...

Details:

Comfortable, natural-looking dentures crafted by on-site dental prosthetist Alessio Pecorella — with the convenience and expertise of a practice that's been trusted in Berwick for over a decade.

Modern Dentures: Not Your Grandparents' False Teeth

If your image of dentures is a set of artificial-looking teeth in a glass by the bedside, it's time to update that picture. Modern dentures are light years ahead of what previous generations wore. Today's materials, techniques, and digital technology allow dental prosthetists to create dentures that look remarkably natural, fit comfortably, and function well — restoring both your smile and your ability to eat, speak, and live with confidence.

At Core Dental Berwick, we have a significant advantage when it comes to denture care: our dental prosthetist, Alessio Pecorella, works on-site. This means the person who designs, crafts, and adjusts your dentures is right here in the practice at Eden Rise Village — working closely with our dentists, seeing you in person for fittings, and making adjustments without the delays that come from outsourcing to external laboratories.

For patients in Berwick, Narre Warren, Officer, Pakenham, Beaconsfield, Harkaway, Clyde, and the surrounding south-east suburbs, this integrated approach translates to better-fitting dentures, faster turnaround times, and a more seamless experience overall.

Why an On-Site Prosthetist Matters

Most dental practices that offer dentures don't actually make them in-house. They take impressions, send them to an external laboratory, wait for the dentures to come back, and then fit them — with any adjustments requiring another round trip to the lab. This process can take weeks, involves multiple appointments, and introduces the potential for miscommunication between the dentist and the lab technician.

At Core Dental Berwick, Alessio Pecorella is part of our team. He's here, in the practice, working alongside our dentists. When adjustments are needed — and they almost always are, especially with new dentures — they can often be made on the spot, the same day, without waiting for an external lab. The coordination between your dentist and your prosthetist is direct and immediate, which translates to a better fit and a smoother experience.

This is particularly valuable for patients who are getting dentures for the first time, upgrading from old dentures, or transitioning to implant-retained dentures — all situations where precision fitting and responsive adjustments make a significant difference to the outcome.

Types of Dentures We Offer

Full Dentures (Complete Dentures)

Full dentures replace an entire arch of teeth — either upper, lower, or both. They rest on the gums and are held in place by suction (for upper dentures) and the natural contour of the jaw (for lower dentures), sometimes supplemented by denture adhesive.

Modern full dentures are crafted from high-quality acrylic and porcelain materials that closely replicate the appearance of natural teeth and gums. The teeth are individually selected and arranged to suit your facial features, complexion, and the natural proportions of your mouth — not stamped out of a one-size-fits-all mould.

****Upper full dentures**** generally achieve good retention through suction against the palate. Many patients find upper dentures comfortable and stable from the outset.

****Lower full dentures**** are inherently more challenging because the tongue and floor of the mouth reduce the surface area available for suction. Lower denture stability is one of the most common reasons patients explore implant-retained options (more on that below).

Partial Dentures

Partial dentures replace one or more missing teeth while your remaining natural teeth stay in place. They consist of replacement teeth attached to a gum-coloured base, connected to a framework that clasps onto your existing teeth for stability.

Partial dentures serve two important functions: they restore the appearance and chewing ability lost with missing teeth, and they prevent remaining teeth from drifting into the gaps — which would otherwise gradually worsen your bite alignment and lead to further dental problems.

****Acrylic partial dentures**** are a cost-effective option for replacing missing teeth. They're relatively quick to make and easy to adjust or add to if further teeth are lost.

****Metal-frame partial dentures**** (cobalt-chrome) are thinner, stronger, and more durable than acrylic partials. The metal framework is less bulky in the mouth, and the clasps grip the remaining teeth more securely, providing better retention.

****Flexible partial dentures**** use a flexible nylon material that's more comfortable than rigid acrylic and eliminates the need for metal clasps. They're aesthetically appealing because the clasps are tooth-coloured or gum-coloured, making them less visible.

Implant-Retained Dentures (Overdentures)

For patients who want significantly more stability than conventional dentures can provide, implant-retained dentures are a genuine game-changer. Two to four dental implants are placed in the jawbone, and the denture clips or snaps onto these implants, holding it firmly in place.

The advantages over conventional dentures are substantial:

- ****No slipping or movement**** — the denture is anchored to the implants
- ****Improved chewing ability**** — you can eat a wider range of foods with confidence
- ****No adhesives needed**** — the implant attachments hold the denture securely
- ****Bone preservation**** — the implants stimulate the jawbone, slowing the bone loss that occurs under conventional dentures
- ****Increased confidence**** — you can speak, laugh, and eat without worrying about your dentures moving

At Core Dental Berwick, our dentists handle the implant placement and our prosthetist Alessio Pecorella designs and fabricates the overdenture — all under one roof, with seamless coordination between the two. This integrated approach is particularly important for implant-retained dentures, where the precision relationship between the implants and the denture directly determines the fit, comfort, and longevity of the result.

Immediate Dentures

Immediate dentures are placed on the same day that teeth are extracted. They serve as a temporary solution during the healing period (which typically lasts several months), ensuring you're never left without teeth. Once healing is complete and the gums and bone have settled, a permanent denture is fabricated to fit the healed ridge.

Immediate dentures require more adjustments than permanent dentures because the mouth changes shape as it heals, but they provide the significant benefit of maintaining your appearance, speech, and ability to eat during the transition period.

The Denture Process at Core Dental Berwick

Initial Consultation

Your denture journey begins with a comprehensive consultation where we assess your oral health, discuss your goals, and determine the best type of denture for your situation. This includes:

- A thorough examination of your mouth, gums, and any remaining teeth - Digital X-rays if needed - Discussion of your lifestyle, dietary needs, and aesthetic preferences - An honest conversation about the options available — full vs. partial, conventional vs. implant-retained - A clear cost estimate

Impressions and Measurements

Precise impressions of your mouth are taken to create a detailed model. We also take measurements of your bite relationship (how your upper and lower jaws come together) and assess factors like:

- The height and width of your jaw ridges - The position of your muscles, tongue, and frenum attachments - The relationship between your upper and lower jaws - Facial measurements that help determine the correct size and position of the denture teeth

Try-In Appointment

Before your final denture is completed, you'll have a try-in appointment with a wax model. This is a critical step — it allows you and your prosthetist to assess:

- The position, size, and shade of the teeth - The way the denture looks in your face (from the front and in profile) - The bite — do the upper and lower teeth come together correctly? - Any aesthetic adjustments — do you want the teeth slightly more forward, a different shade, a more natural or more uniform arrangement?

This is your opportunity to have input before the final denture is processed. Adjustments at this stage are straightforward; changes after final processing are more limited.

Final Fitting

The completed denture is fitted and checked for comfort, retention, and bite. Final adjustments are made, and you'll receive detailed instructions on inserting, removing, cleaning, and caring for your new denture.

Follow-Up and Adjustments

New dentures almost always require some adjustment during the settling-in period. Your gums and muscles need time to adapt, and minor sore spots or pressure points are normal. We schedule follow-up appointments to address these — and with Alessio on-site, adjustments can often be done immediately rather than requiring a return visit.

Caring for Your Dentures

Daily Cleaning

- Remove and rinse dentures after eating - Brush dentures daily with a soft-bristled denture brush and non-abrasive denture cleaner (not regular toothpaste, which can scratch) - Clean your gums, tongue, and palate with a soft toothbrush before reinserting - Soak dentures overnight in water or a mild denture-soaking solution

What to Avoid

- **Hot water** — can warp the denture material - **Abrasive cleaners** — can scratch the surface, creating harbours for bacteria - **Bleach-based products on metal-frame dentures** — can corrode the metal - **Dropping** — handle dentures over a folded towel or a basin of water

When to See Us

- If your dentures feel loose, uncomfortable, or different - If you notice sore spots, redness, or irritation on your gums - If your dentures crack, chip, or break (don't try to repair them yourself) - For annual check-ups — we assess the fit, condition of the denture, and the health of your gums and any remaining teeth

Denture Relines and Repairs

Over time, the shape of your jaw changes — particularly in the first year after extractions, but continuing gradually throughout life. This means dentures that fit perfectly today may become loose over the months and years that follow. Relining — adding new material to the fitting surface of the denture to restore contact with the changed gum ridge — is a normal part of denture maintenance.

Broken clasps, cracked bases, and lost or chipped teeth are also repairable. With Alessio on-site, many repairs and relines can be completed on the same day — saving you the inconvenience of being without your dentures while they're sent away to an external lab.

Replacing Old Dentures

If you're currently wearing dentures that are old, worn, loose, or uncomfortable, it may be time for a new set. Dentures don't last forever — even well-maintained dentures typically need replacement every 5–10 years as the jaw continues to remodel and the denture materials wear down.

Signs it's time for new dentures:

- They feel loose or slip when you talk or eat - You're using increasing amounts of adhesive - The teeth are visibly worn or chipped - The base is discoloured, cracked, or doesn't fit snugly - You're experiencing frequent sore spots or irritation - Your facial appearance has changed (lips collapsing inward, chin moving closer to nose)

A new set of dentures, made with current materials and techniques, can dramatically improve your comfort, appearance, and quality of life. And if you're finding that conventional dentures no longer provide adequate stability, this may be the time to explore implant-retained options.

Cost and Payment Options

Denture costs vary depending on the type (full, partial, implant-retained), materials used, and complexity of your case. At your consultation, we'll provide a clear, detailed cost estimate so you know exactly what to expect.

Health Fund Contributions

Most health funds provide some level of cover for dentures under their general or major dental benefits. Specific rebates vary by fund and level of cover. As a preferred provider for CBHS, HCF, and NIB, Core Dental Berwick offers negotiated fees that typically result in lower out-of-pocket costs for members of these funds.

HICAPS On-Site

We process health fund claims on the spot using HICAPS — tap your card, the claim goes through, and you pay only the gap.

Payment Plans

We offer interest-free payment plans through Payright (from \$1,000 to \$20,000 over 3–30 months), making denture treatment accessible without a large upfront payment. This is particularly relevant for implant-retained dentures, which involve a higher initial investment but deliver significantly superior outcomes.

Why Choose Core Dental Berwick for Dentures?

****On-site prosthetist.**** Alessio Pecorella designs, crafts, and adjusts your dentures right here in the practice — no external labs, faster turnaround, same-day adjustments.

****Over a decade of experience.**** We've been Berwick's trusted dental practice for more than ten years, with the depth of experience that comes from serving the same community over the long term.

****Integrated care.**** Your dentist and your prosthetist work side by side, ensuring seamless coordination — particularly important for implant-retained dentures and complex cases.

****Specialist referral access.**** For complex cases, we have direct referral access to specialist prosthodontists at the Smile Solutions Collins Street Specialist Centre.

****Convenient location.**** Eden Rise Village, Berwick — ample parking, central location, easy access from Narre Warren, Officer, Pakenham, Beaconsfield, and beyond.

****Health fund benefits.**** CBHS, HCF, and NIB preferred provider. HICAPS on-site. Interest-free Payright payment plans.

Book Your Denture Consultation

Whether you need your first denture, want to upgrade from an old set, or are exploring implant-retained options for better stability, we're here to help. Book a consultation at Core Dental Berwick and let Alessio and our dental team assess your needs and explain your options.

****Core Dental Berwick**** Shop 29, 1 O'Shea Rd, Berwick VIC 3806 Phone: (03) 9132 4160 National: 13 13 16 Email: berwick@coredental.com.au

Monday – Friday: 8:00 am – 6:00 pm Saturday: 8:00 am – 1:30 pm Sunday: Closed