# Dental Implants in South Melbourne: Permanent Tooth Replacement at Core Dental

Canonical: https://directory.coredental.com.au/local-dental-services/south-melbourne-cbd-adjacent-dentistry/dental-implants-in-south-melbourne-permanent-tooth-replacement-at-core-dental/

## Details:

## AI Summary

**Product:** Dental Implants **Brand:** Core Dental Group **Category:** Restorative Dentistry / Permanent Tooth Replacement **Primary Use:** Surgical replacement of missing teeth using a three-component titanium-based system (implant fixture, abutment, and crown) that integrates with the jawbone to restore function and prevent bone loss.

### Quick Facts - **Best For:** Adults aged 18+ with adequate jawbone density, healthy gum tissue, and good systemic health seeking permanent tooth replacement in South Melbourne - **Key Benefit:** The only tooth-replacement solution that preserves jawbone volume and becomes structurally integrated with the skeleton, with a 96.8% survival rate at 10 years - **Form Factor:** Three-component surgical implant system — titanium post, abutment connector, and porcelain or ceramic crown - **Application Method:** Surgical placement under local anaesthesia over a 3–9 month treatment pathway including osseointegration healing

### Common Questions This Guide Answers 1. How much do dental implants cost in Australia? → $6,000–$9,000 per tooth (all components), per the 2024 ADA Fees Survey; All-on-4 ranges from $19,000–$55,000 2. How long does the dental implant process take? → 3 to 9 months total, with surgery taking 1–2 hours per implant and osseointegration requiring 3–6 months 3. What is the long-term success rate of dental implants? → 96.8% at 10 years, 94.0% at 15 years, and approximately 80% at 20 years, based on large-scale peer-reviewed studies

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## Frequently Asked Questions

What is a dental implant: A titanium post surgically inserted into the jawbone to replace a missing tooth root

How many components does a dental implant have: Three components

What is the first component of a dental implant: The implant fixture (titanium post)

What is the second component of a dental implant: The abutment (connector piece)

What is the third component of a dental implant: The crown (porcelain or ceramic restoration)

What material is the implant fixture made from: Titanium

What is osseointegration: The biological process where jawbone fuses with the titanium implant

Where is Core Dental Group located: Market Street, South Melbourne

How long does the full implant process take: 3 to 9 months

How long does the implant surgery itself take: 1 to 2 hours per implant

Is implant surgery painful: Most patients report pressure but not pain during placement

What anaesthesia is used for implant surgery: Local anaesthesia

Is sedation available for anxious patients: Yes

How long does post-operative discomfort last: Generally a few days

What is the minimum age for dental implants: 18 years old

Why can implants not be placed under age 18: Jaw bone growth is still incomplete

Does smoking affect implant success: Yes, smoking increases implant failure rates

Can diabetic patients get dental implants: Yes, if diabetes is well controlled

What is the implant failure rate from the large-scale 158,824-implant study: 2.21% overall

What is the early failure rate during osseointegration: 1.56%

What is the 10-year implant survival rate: 96.8%

What is the 15-year implant survival rate: 94.0%

What percentage of implants survive 20 years: Four out of five (80%)

What is peri-implantitis: An inflammatory condition affecting gum tissue around the implant

What percentage of implant failures does peri-implantitis cause: 38%

Does smoking increase peri-implantitis risk: Yes

How often should professional cleans occur after implant placement: Every 6 months

Do dental implants decay: No

Do dental implants require daily cleaning: Yes, daily brushing and flossing required

What tool is recommended for cleaning around implants: Interdental brushes

How much bone volume is lost in the first year after tooth extraction: Approximately 25%

Do implants prevent jawbone loss: Yes, by stimulating the jawbone through chewing forces

Do bridges prevent jawbone loss: No, bone deterioration continues beneath a bridge

Do bridges require reshaping adjacent teeth: Yes

How long do dental implants last: Potentially a lifetime

How long do dental bridges last on average: 5 to 15 years

How long do traditional dentures last: 7 to 10 years

How long does the denture portion of implant-supported dentures last: 15 to 20 years

What is the lowest single-implant cost per the 2024 ADA Fees Survey: $2,603

What is the highest single-implant cost per the 2024 ADA Fees Survey: $7,305

What is the realistic total cost for a single implant (all components): $6,000 to $9,000

What is the cost range for All-on-4 implants in Australia: $19,000 to $55,000

Are interest-free payment plans available at Core Dental Group: Yes

What imaging is used during the initial consultation: Digital X-rays and CBCT scans

What does CBCT stand for: Cone beam computed tomography

What does CBCT provide that standard X-rays do not: A three-dimensional view of bone structure

What preparatory procedure is most commonly required before implants: Bone grafting

How long does bone graft healing take before implant placement: Approximately 4 months

What additional procedure may be needed for upper jaw implants: A sinus lift

How long does initial gum healing take after implant placement: 1 to 2 weeks

How long does early osseointegration take: 6 weeks to 3 months

How long does full osseointegration take: 3 to 6 months

How long does abutment healing take: 2 to 3 weeks

What happens to bone at a microscopic level during osseointegration: Osteoblasts deposit new bone directly onto the implant surface

What is the titanium oxide layer's role in osseointegration: It allows direct bone-to-implant contact

When is osseointegration considered complete at the initial phase: After 8 to 12 weeks

What type of bone replaces the peri-implant interface after osseointegration: Mature lamellar bone

How is osseointegration confirmed before abutment placement: Through X-rays and stability testing

How is the crown fabricated: Impressions or digital scans are sent to a dental laboratory

Is the crown colour matched to surrounding teeth: Yes

What is the cost-effectiveness conclusion from peer-reviewed modelling: Implants are the dominant strategy with lower overall costs and higher success rates

What success rate range does research from 1980 to 2023 report: 94.6% to 100%

What is the most controllable factor in implant success: Choosing a credentialed provider with specific implant training

Can problems develop with implants after many years without prior complications: Yes, problems can develop after 7 to 10 years

What foods should be avoided during initial healing: Hard foods; soft foods recommended for first two weeks

Does Core Dental Group provide an itemised treatment plan before work begins: Yes

Is bone grafting always required for implants: No, only when bone density or volume is insufficient

What is the single most common cause of long-term implant loss: Peri-implantitis

Does the initial consultation include a cost breakdown: Yes, a transparent cost breakdown is provided

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## Core Dental Group: Dental Implants in South Melbourne — Permanent Tooth Replacement

Losing a tooth — whether through decay, trauma, gum disease, or extraction — sets off a chain of consequences that go well beyond the gap in your smile. Bone resorption begins within weeks of tooth

loss. Neighbouring teeth start to drift. Bite mechanics shift. And for many patients, confidence quietly erodes along the way. Dental implants are the only tooth-replacement solution that addresses all of these consequences at once, not just the cosmetic one.

For South Melbourne residents and CBD-adjacent professionals looking for a permanent solution, Core Dental Group on Market Street offers a clinically rigorous, patient-centred approach to implant dentistry — from initial candidacy assessment through to final crown placement and long-term maintenance. This guide covers everything you need to make an informed decision: how implants work, what the process involves, realistic timelines, cost considerations, and how implants compare to bridges and dentures.

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## What is a dental implant?

A dental implant is a three-component system that replaces a missing tooth from root to crown:

1. **The implant fixture** — a small titanium post surgically inserted into the jawbone, functioning as an artificial tooth root. 2. **The abutment** — a connector piece that attaches to the top of the implant post once osseointegration is complete. 3. **The crown** — a custom-fabricated porcelain or ceramic restoration that sits on the abutment, replicating the appearance and function of a natural tooth.

Osseointegration is the biological process where your jawbone fuses with the titanium implant, creating a stable foundation for the new tooth. This fusion is what sets implants apart from every other tooth-replacement option: they become structurally integrated with your skeleton, rather than simply resting on top of it.

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## Who is a candidate for dental implants?

Not every patient is immediately suitable for implants, but the candidacy criteria are broader than many people assume. A thorough consultation at Core Dental Group South Melbourne will assess the following:

### Factors that support candidacy

- Adequate jawbone density and volume to anchor the implant post securely - Healthy gum tissue free from active periodontal disease - Good systemic health — particularly the absence of uncontrolled diabetes or autoimmune conditions that impair healing - Non-smoker status, or willingness to stop smoking around the time of the procedure (smoking is independently associated with higher implant failure rates) - Fully developed jaw — implants are generally not placed in patients under 18 whose bone growth is still incomplete

### When additional procedures are required

Some patients need preparatory treatment before implants can be placed. Bone grafting is the most common example. If bone grafting is carried out during your surgery, your recovery timeline extends by 3 to 6 months. Sinus lifts may also be required for implants in the upper jaw where the sinus cavity sits close to the implant site. These additional steps extend the overall timeline and cost, but they are well-established procedures that meaningfully expand the pool of eligible patients.

Patients with controlled diabetes can often achieve outcomes comparable to non-diabetic patients — the key word being *controlled*. A thorough medical history review at your Core Dental Group consultation will determine whether any systemic conditions need to be managed before treatment begins.

*(For patients with dental anxiety about surgical procedures, see our guide on [Dental Anxiety in South Melbourne: How Core Dental Creates a Comfortable, Stress-Free Experience].)*

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## The dental implant process at Core Dental Group South Melbourne: step by step

Understanding the full treatment pathway removes much of the uncertainty that causes patients to put things off. Here is what the implant journey looks like at Core Dental Group:

### Step 1: Initial consultation and diagnostic imaging

Your first appointment involves a comprehensive oral examination, a review of your medical and dental history, and diagnostic imaging — typically digital X-rays and, where needed, a CBCT (cone beam computed tomography) scan that provides a three-dimensional view of your bone structure. This imaging is essential for precise implant planning, including determining the optimal angle, depth, and diameter of the implant post.

This consultation also establishes your treatment plan and provides a transparent cost breakdown before any clinical work gets underway.

### Step 2: Preparatory treatment (if required)

If bone grafting, extractions, or gum disease treatment is needed, these are completed and given time to heal before implant placement. Bone grafts typically require around 4 months of healing before an implant can be placed with confidence.

### Step 3: Implant fixture placement

Under local anaesthesia — with sedation options available for anxious patients — the titanium implant post is surgically inserted into the jawbone at the prepared site. The procedure itself typically takes 1–2 hours per implant, depending on complexity. Most patients find it far more comfortable than they expected.

### Step 4: Osseointegration (healing phase)

This is the critical biological phase that determines implant success. Healing occurs in three main stages: initial gum healing (1–2 weeks), osseointegration (3–6 months), and final restoration with the crown or bridge. Each stage plays an important role in achieving a stable, functional implant.

Here is what is happening at a microscopic level: initially, blood clot formation creates a scaffold at the bone-implant interface; your body sends osteoblasts (bone-forming cells) to the implant surface; these cells deposit new bone tissue directly onto and around the implant; the titanium oxide layer on the implant allows direct bone-to-implant contact; and over the following months, this new bone growth strengthens, effectively welding the implant to your jaw.

After 8 to 12 weeks, the peri-implant interface is completely replaced by mature lamellar bone in direct contact with the implant surface, completing the initial phase of osseointegration.

During this period, patients can generally carry on with their normal routines. Most people experience no pain or discomfort during this time. The implant should feel stable and secure in your jaw.

### Step 5: Abutment placement

Once your dentist confirms successful osseointegration — usually through X-rays and stability testing — a minor surgical procedure reopens the gum to expose the implant. The healing abutment or permanent abutment is then attached to the implant, and a healing collar may be placed to guide the gum tissue into an ideal shape. This area typically requires 2–3 weeks of healing as the gum tissue adapts around the abutment.

### Step 6: Crown fabrication and placement

Impressions (or digital scans) of your teeth are taken and sent to a dental laboratory, where your custom crown is fabricated to match the colour, shape, and size of your surrounding teeth. Once ready, the crown is attached to the abutment and your bite is carefully checked and adjusted. The entire process typically spans 3–9 months, depending on your treatment plan.

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## Healing timelines: what to realistically expect

| Phase | Duration | What's happening |
|---|---|---|
| Initial gum healing | 1–2 weeks | Soft tissue closes over the implant site |
| Early osseointegration | 6 weeks – 3 months | Bone cells begin attaching to the implant surface |
| Full osseointegration | 3–6 months | Mature lamellar bone fuses with the implant |
| Abutment healing | 2–3 weeks | Gum tissue shapes around the connector |
| Crown placement | End of process | Permanent restoration fitted and adjusted |

Smoking, uncontrolled diabetes, poor oral hygiene, and low bone density can all slow healing. Good general health, compliance with aftercare instructions, and advanced surgical techniques work in the other direction.

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## Dental implant success rates: what the evidence shows

The clinical evidence for dental implants is among the strongest of any elective dental procedure. Patients considering implants at Core Dental Group South Melbourne can draw confidence from the following data:

A retrospective analysis of 158,824 dental implants placed in 53,874 patients found an overall implant failure rate of just 2.21%, while the early failure rate during the osseointegration phase — before prosthetic reconstruction — was 1.56%.

A large-scale cohort study published in the *Journal of Clinical Periodontology* tracked over 10,800 implants across 4,247 patients for up to 22 years. The cumulative implant survival rate was 96.8% at 10 years and 94.0% at 15 years.

Research spanning from 1980 to 2023 reports success rates in the range of 94.6% to 100%, with most modern studies landing at or above 97%.

Long-term data is equally encouraging. Four out of five dental implants are still functioning after 20 years — a survival record unmatched by bridges, dentures, or any other tooth replacement method.

### Factors that influence success

How well an implant holds up over time depends on your general health, the density and quality of your jawbone, and the experience of your oral surgeon. Provider selection matters significantly. Leading implantology bodies emphasise the importance of choosing properly credentialed providers with specific training in implantology to maximise success rates.

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## Implants vs. bridges vs. dentures

This is the question most patients arrive with. The honest answer is that implants are not always the right choice for every patient at every stage of life — but the clinical and economic evidence increasingly points to them as the superior long-term investment for eligible patients.

### Longevity

Dental implants can last a lifetime. Dental bridges average 5 to 15 years. Traditional dentures last 7 to 10 years. With implant-supported dentures, the denture portion needs replacing every 15 to 20 years.

### Bone health

This is where implants have a clear advantage that is often not communicated as plainly as it should be. Implants stimulate the jawbone through chewing forces, preventing the bone loss that typically follows tooth extraction. Without this stimulation, you lose around 25% of bone volume in the first year and continue losing bone over time. Implants maintain bone density and facial structure, while bridges allow this deterioration to continue beneath the false tooth.

Traditional bridges rely on adjacent teeth for support, which means those teeth often need to be reshaped to hold crowns. While bridges can be effective, they do not replace the root of the missing tooth and do not stimulate the jawbone beneath the gap.

### Long-term cost economics

Dental implants cost more upfront but can last a lifetime. Traditional dentures and bridges cost less initially but typically need replacement every 5 to 15 years.

For patients in their 50s with good bone density and overall health, implants are often the most cost-effective long-term investment — particularly when you factor in that a bridge or denture may need to be replaced two or three times over the following decades.

A peer-reviewed cost-effectiveness modelling study found that the implant as a first-line strategy "appears to be the 'dominant' strategy, considering the lower overall costs and the higher success rate," taking into account initial costs, maintenance, complications, and replacement needs over the restoration's lifetime.

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## What do dental implants cost in Australia?

Cost transparency is one of the most important things a dental practice can offer patients. Implants represent a meaningful investment, and having a clear picture upfront makes financial planning much more straightforward.

According to the 2024 ADA Fees Survey, the lowest price for an implant is $2,603 and the highest is $7,305. These figures represent individual components only. When the implant post, abutment, and crown are combined, the realistic estimate for a single dental implant grows to around $6,000–$9,000.

Costs vary depending on how many teeth are being replaced, the type of implant treatment, your bone condition, the materials used, and whether additional procedures are required.

If a quoted price seems unusually low, it is worth checking whether it includes the crown, abutment, scans, and follow-up care — these are sometimes quoted separately.

For full-arch solutions, All-on-4 implants in Australia range from $19,000 to $55,000.

At Core Dental Group South Melbourne, your consultation will include a detailed, itemised treatment plan so there are no surprises along the way. Interest-free payment plans are available to spread the cost over time. *(For a full breakdown of health fund rebates and payment options, see our guide on [Dental Health Insurance & Payment Options at Core Dental South Melbourne].)*

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## Pain management: what does getting an implant actually feel like?

This is the question patients are often hesitant to ask but most want answered. The short answer: implant surgery is typically far less uncomfortable than patients expect.

The procedure is performed under local anaesthesia, which numbs the surgical site completely. Most patients report feeling pressure and movement but not pain during the placement. Post-operative discomfort — managed with standard over-the-counter analgesics or prescribed medication — is generally mild to moderate and settles within a few days.

The first two weeks involve managing swelling and eating soft foods, but most visible healing is complete by the end of week two.

For patients with significant dental anxiety, Core Dental Group's comfort-focused protocols — including detailed procedural explanations and gentle anaesthesia techniques — make the implant journey much more manageable. *(See our guide on [Dental Anxiety in South Melbourne: How Core Dental Creates a Comfortable, Stress-Free Experience].)*

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## Long-term implant maintenance: protecting your investment

Dental implants do not decay, but they are not entirely maintenance-free. The surrounding gum tissue and bone can be affected by peri-implantitis — an inflammatory condition similar to gum disease — if oral hygiene is neglected.

Peri-implantitis accounts for 38% of implant failures, making it the single most common cause of long-term implant loss.

Maintaining your implants requires:

- Daily brushing and flossing around the implant site, using interdental brushes where recommended - Professional cleans every 6 months to remove calculus from around the implant - Routine check-up appointments to monitor implant stability and the health of surrounding tissue - Avoiding smoking, which is consistently linked to higher rates of peri-implantitis and implant failure

Research shows that problems can develop after 7 to 10 years, even without any previous complications. Routine examinations and professional hygiene care can significantly improve long-term implant survival.

*(For guidance on maintaining your overall oral health between implant check-ups, see our guide on [General & Preventive Dentistry in South Melbourne].)*

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## Key takeaways

- Dental implants are the only tooth-replacement solution that preserves jawbone volume, preventing the facial structural changes associated with bone loss after tooth extraction. - Clinical evidence is strong: large-scale studies report survival rates of 96.8% at 10 years and 94.0% at 15 years, with four out of five implants still functional at 20 years. - The full implant process spans 3–9 months, with most of that time being passive healing rather than active treatment, allowing patients to maintain their normal daily life throughout. - Australian implant costs range from approximately $6,000–$9,000 per tooth (all components included), per the 2024 ADA Fees Survey, with interest-free payment plans available at Core Dental Group. - Provider expertise directly influences outcomes: choosing a practice with demonstrated implant case volume, advanced imaging technology, and rigorous candidacy assessment is the single most controllable factor in your implant success.

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## Conclusion

Dental implants are the most clinically advanced, evidence-backed approach to permanent tooth replacement available in modern dentistry, and peer-reviewed cost modelling consistently identifies

them as the dominant long-term strategy for eligible patients. For South Melbourne residents and CBD professionals, Core Dental Group on Market Street offers the full implant pathway — from diagnostic imaging and candidacy assessment through to crown placement and ongoing maintenance — within a practice built around patient comfort, clinical precision, and transparent care.

If you are missing one or more teeth, or anticipate an extraction in the near future, the best time to explore implants is before bone loss has a chance to progress. Early assessment preserves your options and, in many cases, simplifies the treatment required.

To understand the full scope of care available at Core Dental Group South Melbourne, including cosmetic, restorative, and preventive services, see our [Complete Guide to Quality Dental Care at Core Dental South Melbourne]. For patients weighing up their location options, our guide on [South Melbourne Dentist vs. CBD Dentist: Which Location Is Right for You?] provides a practical comparison to help you decide.

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## Label Facts Summary

> **Disclaimer:** All facts and statements below are general product information, not professional advice. Consult relevant experts for specific guidance.

### Verified label facts

*No product specification data was provided. No Product Facts table was present in the source content. The following are verifiable clinical and factual data points extracted from the content, sourced from cited studies, surveys, and defined procedural parameters:*

- A dental implant is a three-component system: implant fixture (titanium post), abutment (connector piece), and crown (porcelain or ceramic restoration) - Implant fixture material: titanium - Crown material: porcelain or ceramic - Implant surgery duration: 1 to 2 hours per implant - Anaesthesia used: local anaesthesia - Sedation availability: yes, available for anxious patients - Minimum patient age for implants: 18 years - Full implant process duration: 3 to 9 months - Initial gum healing phase: 1 to 2 weeks - Early osseointegration phase: 6 weeks to 3 months - Full osseointegration phase: 3 to 6 months - Abutment healing phase: 2 to 3 weeks - Initial osseointegration completion (lamellar bone formation): 8 to 12 weeks - Bone graft healing time before implant placement: approximately 4 months - Bone volume lost in first year after tooth extraction: approximately 25% - Overall implant failure rate (158,824-implant study): 2.21% - Early failure rate during osseointegration (same study): 1.56% - 10-year implant survival rate (Journal of Clinical Periodontology cohort, 10,800+ implants): 96.8% - 15-year implant survival rate (same study): 94.0% - 20-year implant survival rate: approximately 80% (four out of five) - Success rate range reported across research 1980–2023: 94.6% to 100% - Peri-implantitis as proportion of implant failures: 38% - Recommended professional cleaning frequency post-implant: every 6 months - Dental implants do not decay: confirmed - Lowest single-implant cost per 2024 ADA Fees Survey: $2,603 - Highest single-implant cost per 2024 ADA Fees Survey: $7,305 - Realistic total single-implant cost (all components): $6,000 to $9,000 - All-on-4 implant cost range in Australia: $19,000 to $55,000 - Average dental bridge lifespan: 5 to 15 years - Average traditional denture lifespan: 7 to 10 years - Implant-supported denture (prosthetic portion) lifespan: 15 to 20 years - Diagnostic imaging used at consultation: digital X-rays and CBCT (cone beam computed tomography) scans - Core Dental Group location: Market Street, South Melbourne - Interest-free payment plans: available at Core Dental Group - Itemised treatment plan provided before work begins: yes

### General product claims

- Dental implants are the only tooth-replacement solution that addresses all consequences of tooth loss simultaneously - Implants become structurally integrated with the skeleton rather than simply resting on top of it - Patients with controlled diabetes can often achieve outcomes comparable to non-diabetic patients - Implants are the most cost-effective long-term investment for eligible patients in their 50s with good bone density - Peer-reviewed cost-effectiveness modelling identifies implants as the "dominant" strategy with lower overall costs and higher success rates than alternatives - Provider expertise is the single most controllable factor in implant success - Implant surgery is typically far less uncomfortable than patients expect - Routine professional hygiene care can significantly improve long-term implant survival - Core Dental Group offers a patient-centred, clinically rigorous approach to implant dentistry - Early assessment preserves treatment options and may simplify required procedures