

Ask The Dentists

December ASK THE DENTIST

Dear Drs Winter: Would it be advisable for a person age 85 to have a dental implant? Perhaps several? My dentist says I am losing bone and my lower denture hurts.

Answer: That's a great question. The first thing to ask you would be, "How is your quality of life?"

We only have one life to live and if someone is unhappy, uncomfortable, can't eat, chew, smile, speak or live a healthy life, then ---YES, they should have dental implants, assuming they are healthy. Age is not by itself a contraindication to implants. People that have made it to age 85 stand a great chance of living into their 90's and perhaps, longer!

The implants can be used to stabilize a denture, a partial denture or to replace missing teeth with a bridge. We have examples of all of these procedures at www.winterdental.com

If you don't have a computer, you may call our office at 414-464-9021 and we would be happy to send you literature about your particular situation. We also offer complimentary implant and denture consultations if you would like to come in for an evaluation.

The types of implant restorations depend to some degree on your budget and the amount of bone you have remaining in your mouth. At age 85, if money and health are not a factor, then quality of life should be. We have interest free financing and would be happy to discuss what options are available to you that fit within your current budget.

Sometimes a few mini-implants to stabilize a loose denture are what will solve your problems. Other times people want teeth they simply, do not need to take out of their mouths anymore.



Drs. Richard and Bruce Winter

The type of treatment you require will also depend on the status of your existing dentures. Poorly fitting dentures can often accelerate bone loss; lead to sores where nerves are pressing on the denture acrylic and people can't get relief from their mouth pain. For these people, a simple relined or soft liner may be all that a patient requires.

I wish you the best of luck. Should you wish to visit our office please call us at 414-464-9021 and tell them you contacted me via the internet for a special consideration.

Sincerely,
Dr. Bruce Winter
Dr. Richard Winter

www.winterdental.com

e-mail questions to rick@winterdental.com

Phone: 414-464-9021