



Horbury Dental care & implant clinic

making you smile for over 75 years

AFTERCARE FOR

Definitive Bridgework

CONGRATULATIONS! YOU HAVE NOW HAD THE BRIDGE PLACED ON YOUR IMPLANTS AND WE TRUST THAT YOU ARE DELIGHTED WITH THE RESULTS THAT HAVE BEEN ACHIEVED. IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOU NOW FOLLOW A FEW SIMPLE GUIDELINES TO HELP MAINTAIN THE HEALTH OF YOUR MOUTH AND ENSURE LONG TERM PREDICTABILITY.

1. Oral Hygiene - It is important that you use a tooth brush with denture cream which is not too abrasive on the new bridgework. Please continue to use ordinary toothpaste on your natural teeth.

2. Use of a water pick is absolutely essential for cleaning beneath the bridgework and we will show you how to use this. Occasionally it may be prudent to place a little Corsodyl or Chlorhexidine rinse within the reservoir of the water pick to clean effectively beneath the bridge. Interdental brushes can also be very valuable and a hygienist will show you how to use these.

3. If you have any bleeding of your gums or a bad taste then please let us know.

4. Professional Maintenance - A professional maintenance programme will be designed for you. This may involve visiting the hygienist every 3 or 6 months and the dentist every 6-12 months. It is important that you follow professional advice when maintaining your new teeth, ensuring you keep teeth and gums healthy.

5. Please note - Implants can suffer gum disease like natural teeth. This is why it is so important you continue to maintain very high levels of oral hygiene and visit

the dentist regularly for routine check-ups and X-rays.

6. Smoking - Please remember that smokers have a very high risk of implant failure. If you choose to smoke, then you risk losing your implants; this is entirely at your own risk, and we cannot offer any guarantees or warranties for smokers.

7. Implant Insurance - Some people ask about implant insurance and there are a number of providers for implant insurance. Please ask for details if you wish.

8. Future Follow-up - We recommend X-rays are taken every one to two years to check the bone levels around the implants are well maintained. If you have any problems or notice anything that does not feel or look quite right, then please do not hesitate to contact us. Please remember prevention is better than cure; if you notice anything changing then we would rather see you as soon as possible.

9. Wear of the bridgework depends on habits such as teeth grinding. You will see wear of your teeth with function. The rate of wear will depend on habits and also to some extent on your diet and strength of bite.

10. Bridgework - Bridgework will need periodically removing for cleaning, servicing and carrying out any repairs.

11. Nightguards - We may recommend you wear a nightguard to prevent damage occurring due to teeth grinding.

12. Your bridge is retained by small screws. This has several advantages. However, occasionally the small screws may loosen in function and therefore if you notice any loosening of your prosthesis, you should inform us immediately. We will make arrangements to see you without delay in order to tighten the screws.

13. Additionally, a small filling seals the screw access cavity. If this is lost please let us know. Whilst this may be annoying to your tongue it is not detrimental to the function and health of your teeth.

14. Remember to contact the practice promptly if you notice any pain, swelling, bad taste, loosening or alteration in the way teeth bite together. If you have any concerns, please call the practice on 01924 211234.

If you require any further advice, please e-mail or telephone the Implant Clinic:

✉ willings@horburydentalcare.co.uk

☎ 01924 211 234