DENTAL DIGEST

Who Should I See For My Dental Implants? Ira Goldberg, DDS, FAGD, DICOI

Are you in need of dental implants, and unsure who you should see? Maybe you want your dentist to take care of them, but they want to send you to an oral surgeon or periodontist and you're uncomfortable about that. Or maybe your general dentist doesn't get involved with implants at all. Maybe you're considering a dentist such as Dr. Goldberg, who performs all phases of implant dentistry from start to finish.

First, its important to understand dental implants are not a specialty, so any dentist can perform the procedures. What you will find are dentists with many different levels of training. Most dentists simply restore the implants with the "prosthesis," meaning a crown, bridge, denture, or hybrid teeth. These dentists will work with an oral surgeon or periodontist to place the implants; this is where a referral becomes necessary. Other dentists are comfortable placing implants as long as they are straight-forward. If the amount of bone available is minimal, grafting may be necessary and referrals again become likely.

Some dentists, such as Dr. Goldberg, have had years of training and experience, and thoroughly enjoy implant dentistry. This is where you can take advantage of seeing just one dentist from start to finish, and one dentist taking full responsibility for the treatment. You don't get bounced from one office to another.

One of the biggest challenges Dr. Goldberg sees are implants that are placed in poor positions, and then they cannot be restored correctly. This happens when the dentist who places the implants is not focusing on the restorations. Please note this does not happen all the time, but when it does happen, it can be frustrating for all parties involved. It can also put the implants at risk of failure, which may not occur for a few years.

Here are some questions or topics you should consider asking your dentist and / or surgeon:

- How long have you been placing / restoring implants?
- What kind of training have you undergone? What implant organizations are you involved with?
- If more than one office is involved, how in-sync are the two offices? How long have they been working together?
- Can you please show me other cases you have completed that are similar to mine?
- Who will I see for maintenance and follow-up care: the dentist who placed the implants or the dentist who restored the implants? Do I have to see both? Will there be multiple charges for the maintenance visits?
- What are my other options for treatment?

The office of Dr. Goldberg offers free consultations. If you'd like to speak with Dr. Goldberg personally and determine the best course of action for your specific situation, please give the office a call.

Dr. Goldberg is a general dentist located in the Roxbury Mall in Succasunna, NJ. He provides general dentistry for the entire family, including: cleanings, check-ups, whitening, veneers, crowns, root canals, dentures, periodontal (gum) services, dental implants, and much more. He is a Diplomate of the American Board of Implantology/Implant Dentistry, holds multiple degrees and is recognized as an expert in dental implants. You can find additional information on his website: www.morriscountydentist.com. The office can be reached at: (973) 328-1225 or via email: frontdesk.mcda@gmail.com