



MY DENTAL IMPLANT HAS FAILED

WHAT DO I DO? WHO SHOULD I SEE FOR TREATMENT?

Dental implants have a very high rate of long-term success, but in a small percentage of patients, failure or complications can occur. When serious problems do happen, removal and replacement of the implants can become necessary, and require a surgical procedure called dental implant revision.

Dental patients who are experiencing some trouble with existing dental implants are often confused as to when implant removal is warranted. Here's a simple checklist that can help you decide if you may be a candidate for dental implant revision surgery.

- **Your implant has become loose:**

An implant that is shifting in the jaw is generally considered a failed implant and is typically subject to removal. This may occur soon after placement, several months after placement or many years later, and can be caused by poor bonding with the jaw (osseointegration), reduced bone quantity or quality at the implant site, infection, improper implant placement, implant overloading, or implant fracture, among other factors.

- **Your prosthetic (replacement tooth or teeth) keeps coming loose:**

While this can be caused by a problem with the prosthetic itself, it can also occur because of poorly angled or placed implants.

- **You have chronic, throbbing pain or numbness at or near the implant site:**

This may indicate that your implant was placed too close to a nerve, causing nerve damage.

- **You have gum inflammation and/or bleeding around your implant:**

Whether this condition comes with pain or without, it can indicate peri-implantitis, which is a form of gum disease. While it can often be treated successfully in its early stages, advanced peri-implantitis may make dental implant revision necessary.

- **You have gum recession at the implant site:**

An condition that leads to an infection, bone loss, thin gum tissue or poor implant positioning, may, in some cases, call for implant extraction.

- **Your dentist has discovered bone loss around your implants:**

This may be a result of an infection, implant loosening, bruxism (teeth grinding or clenching), or improper implant placement.

- **Your implant is causing chronic sinus problems:**

An implant that is placed too close to a sinus cavity protrudes into the sinuses during the initial placement procedure, or migration of the implant over time can cause chronic sinus pain and/or infection.

- **You have aesthetic issues or bite problems due to poor implant positioning:**

Poor angling or positioning of dental implants can make proper dental restoration difficult, or impossible which may require removal and replacement of the implants.

Because each of these problems, or any combination of them, may indicate that you are a candidate for a dental implant revision procedure a consultation is typically required.

WHO IS QUALIFIED TO PERFORM DENTAL IMPLANT REVISION SURGERY?

In orthopedic surgery when a patient needs a hip, or a knee prosthesis replaced they seek out surgeons who perform orthopedic revision surgery.

These are surgeons with a great deal of experience. The same is true for dental implant revision surgeons.

- Replacing failed dental implants is always more complex than the original surgery.
- Replacing failed implants requires extensive surgical training and experience.
- Start by finding a Board Certified Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeon Oral and Maxillofacial





Surgeons have much more extensive surgical training compared to all other dental specialists.

- Next, find a surgeon with a least ten years of surgical implant experience.
- Ask your surgeon how many implant procedures they perform, on average, per month. An experienced surgeon usually will place more than 500 implants a year.
- Finally, ask your surgeon if they perform guided surgery, which is also called computer-assisted surgery, or CAS. This is the most technologically advanced dental implant surgery and should be a part of your treatment when you undergo dental implant revision surgery.

DRS EMERY, DIFABIO, AND RETANA

Drs Emery, Difabio, and Retana all perform dental implant revision surgery. During patient consultations, we will do a thorough examination - including three-dimensional imaging, to determine the source and severity of your complications, then we will suggest a treatment plan based on your specific needs. If your conditions indicate the need for dental implant removal, we'll advise you as to what you can expect and what dental restoration options will be available to you once your dental implant revision procedure has been completed.



DR. EMERY



DR. DIFABIO



DR. RETANA

QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR IMPLANTS?

SET UP A MEETING WITH DRS EMERY, DIFABIO AND RETANA

MEETING