

How do I maintain my new implant supported Crown/Bridge?

Implants, like all dental prostheses, require daily maintenance from you. They do require some special care to maximise their longevity.

Although dental implants cannot feel pain, the gum and bone around the implant can still be affected if not kept clean; therefore hygiene is **very important**.

Flossing:

- Wrap the floss around the circumference of the implant to maximise the surface area contact between the teeth, then slide the floss up and down the implant restoration and gently under the gum
- We recommend you use Glide floss (Oral-B)
- Alternatively, an interdental brush can be used in larger spaces
- The space between the gum and the tooth is significantly larger around an implant, so it is important to clean your implant daily.

Other factors such as **smoking**, can affect the gum and bone health around your implant.

Initial two-week review appointment

This appointment will be allocated for you with the hygienist to assess your gum health around the prosthesis. Cleaning techniques and types of equipment will be demonstrated and an oral hygiene regime will be designed which will be tailored specifically for your needs.

Annual Review

To comply with the five-year warranty offered by our implant manufacturers, we require you to attend our practice for an **annual review** of your implant. This visit will be with the hygienist and during this visit we will check the condition of your implant, health of the surrounding tissues, bite and make any adjustments necessary.

An x-ray may be required to check the bone around the implant; this will be discussed with you prior to proceeding.

Annual implant reviews will attract a fee to cover the time involved and any x-rays taken. Repairs to implant superstructures may attract a fee to cover all or part of the cost of this treatment. The decision to charge a fee for repairs will be made on a case-by-case basis.