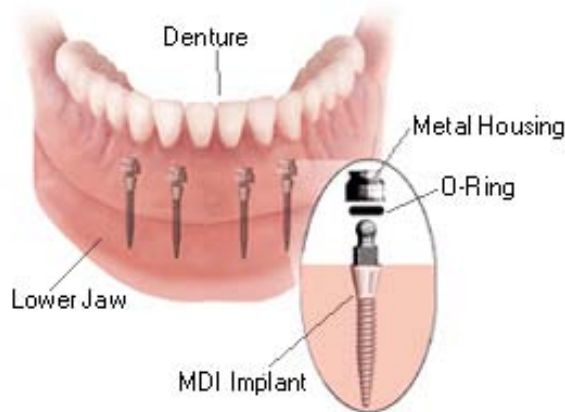


Dear Patients,

Ellington & Hulbert Family Dentistry now offering Mini Dental Implants.

Dr. Ellington and Dr. Hulbert are pleased to announce that our office is now able to offer Mini Dental Implants to our patients. Mini Dental Implants are a one-stage procedure that involves minimally invasive surgery, no sutures, and quick healing. Please read on for more information on how they might be an effective solution for you.



Q: What are Mini Dental Implants?

A: Mini Dental Implants (MDIs) are small titanium implants that act like the root of your tooth. The head of the implant is shaped like a ball, and the retaining fixture acts like a socket that contains a rubber O-ring. The O-ring snaps over the ball when the denture is seated and holds the denture at a predetermined level of force. When seated, the denture gently rests on the

gum tissue. The implant fixtures allow for micro-mobility while withstanding natural lifting forces.

Q: How long have Mini Dental Implants been around?

A: MDIs were formally introduced to the United States Dental community in 1999. They were an instant success and now represent one of the fastest growing segments of the dental product industry.

Q: Are Mini Implants FDA approved?

A: Yes, Mini Dental Implants are approved by the FDA not only as a transitional or temporary product, but also as a long-term dental device.

Q: What's the primary and most effective use for Mini Dental Implants?

A: The most effective use is stabilization of a lower denture. There are approximately 50 million people in the United States who are edentulous (meaning 'lacking teeth'). A majority of these suffer a great deal of discomfort as a result of loose or ill-fitting dentures. Many denture wearers simply withdraw from any type of social interaction as a result of this. In addition, it's not uncommon for family members to complain about a denture wearer's disagreeable breath as a result of food being trapped and decaying under their dentures. Successful placement of a Mini Dental Implant addresses all of these related problems. Denture patients all over the world have experienced relief from loose or ill-fitting dentures from doctors who are trained to place the MDI.

Q: How are Mini Dental Implants placed in the mouth?

A: The standard protocol for Mini Dental Implants calls for four implants to be gently screwed into the front of a patient's lower jaw. This is a relatively painless procedure that can be performed using only a mild anesthesia. The implants, which are approximately the size of wooden toothpicks, are placed about five millimeters apart in the patient's lower jaw.

The patient's denture is then carefully adjusted to allow it to snap onto the four implants. The result is a tight-fitting, completely reliable implant that allows a patient to speak and eat with confidence. Mini Implants can be placed in about an hour. The typical Mini Dental Implant patient can enjoy a light meal an hour or so after having the implants placed. Further, a denture patient who has had their prosthesis stabilized with a MDI can remove and replace the denture easily after a little practice, and can easily maintain good oral hygiene.

Q: Can Mini Implants be used like traditional Implants to replace individual and multiple teeth?

A: In many instances, yes. This often cuts treatment time by months and cuts the overall cost to the patient in half.

To recap, the main benefits of Mini Dental Implants:

- Shorter recovery times
- lower cost
- lack of significant invasive surgery

In most cases, Mini Implants can be set in just one hour and patients will leave with an increased confidence, ready to eat, smile and speak like they would with a full set of natural teeth. With virtually no discomfort on the part of the patient, Mini Dental Implants are an attractive option many.

Please call our office today for more information on how this safe and non-invasive procedure might work for you, or someone you know.

Sincerely,

Dr. Robert Hulbert
Dr. Paul Ellington

www.EllingtonHulbert.com