WHAT TYPES OF DENTURES ARE THERE?

TRADITIONAL DENTURES

Dentures held in the mouth by nothing other than passive retention. This means that impressions are taken of the mouth (without teeth) and dentures are fabricated precisely to the underlying gum.

Typically, people who have a denture in this situation have to rely on denture adhesives or pastes to keep the denture in place throughout the day.

This is especially the case on lower dentures because the ridge of bone and gum on the lower is not as substantial as that on the top, so the denture "flops" around more. The **upper denture** is usually a little more stable in this situation because it utilizes the surface area of your palate to help keep things in place.

OVER DENTURE

This is a denture that is essentially attached to either two dental implants or two mini-implants. You can see how this option helps to stabilize and retain the denture in the mouth. The denture will actually "click" into the two positions.

Old **dentures** (or your existing denture) can usually be retro-fit to accommodate the denture. As far as dentures go, this is the second best option for long term. Patients prefer this option for the lower denture as it helps the denture to stay more firmly in place making it much easier to chew with and to talk with. This option still makes the denture removable each night.

Over Denture Illustration

IMPLANT SUPPORTED DENTURE (hybrid bridge)

This option is not really a denture – it's more like a fixed bridge. Typically 4 or 6 dental implants are placed on the upper and lower arch. The denture hybrid is actually fixed to the implants in the mouth.

This is the most stable option and it is NOT removed each night. Some other names for this type of denture are "All on 4″ or "Teeth in an Hour."

The advantage to implant supported **dentures** is that they are the most stable and most aesthetic option. Due to their complex nature and the amount of dental implants necessary to support them, they are also the most expensive.
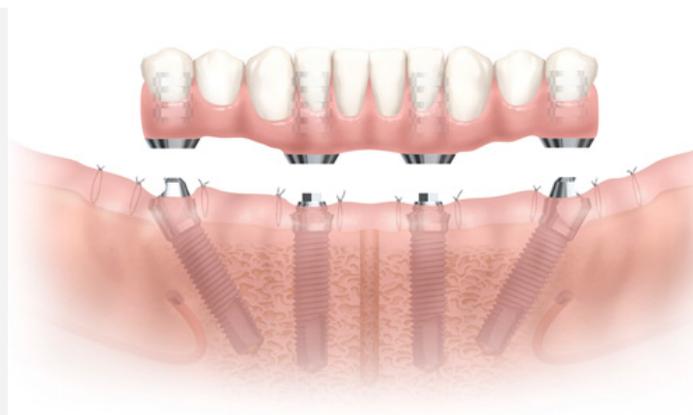
Hybrid Denture Bridge Illustration