

## Implant retained mandibular overdentures

### What the experts say:



*The evidence currently available suggests that the restoration of the edentulous mandible with a conventional denture is no longer the most appropriate first choice treatment. There is now overwhelming evidence that a two implant retained overdenture should become the first choice of treatment for the edentulous mandible.*



(McGill Consensus Statement 2002)

**If the evidence is overwhelming why is this treatment modality so underprescribed in the UK? Historically there were many reasons for this but from our experience the majority of patients are now very receptive to overdenture treatment if properly explained.**

Many dentists were put off overdenture treatment in the 1990's as the available attachments were of poor quality, required a lot of maintenance and were "more trouble than they were worth".

This is no longer the case. We have been using the locator attachment system since its introduction about 5 years ago and have had few problems. The degree of retention can be varied easily and replacement of the retentive inserts only takes a few minutes.

### Services offered include:

- \* Full dentures
- \* Partial dentures
- \* Immediate dentures
- \* Overdentures on implants
- \* Continuing professional development

### EXAMPLE 1



The photo shows 4 locator abutments with a single housing in place to illustrate the low profile of the attachment/housing unit. This low profile means that the system is almost universally applicable even in cases where space is at a premium. It doesn't compromise the strength of the denture and can be retrofitted easily to existing dentures.

We do not recommend immediate loading of 2 implant overdentures but the interval from implant placement to final fitting has now been reduced to 10 weeks in most cases.

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In cases where a few lower teeth remain the implants can usually be placed before extraction of the last few teeth and can be loaded immediately or very shortly after extraction of these teeth.

The comment we most often hear from patients is "I wish I had had this done years ago".

As many of the patients we treat have severely atrophic mandibles and are often elderly with a variety of medical problems we normally use the services of Mr Steve Taylor with respect to the surgical placement of the fixtures. He has been placing fixtures for us in severely atrophic cases for 10 years with a very high success rate.

Below are some examples of other types of implant supported prosthetics we offer.

## EXAMPLE 2



A milled bar on 4 implants: Provides an extremely stable and retentive overdenture.



The overdenture incorporates a gold sleeve to engage the bar and protect against fracture. "Push fit" attachments can be placed in the bar to vary the degree of retention.

## EXAMPLE 3



Two "custom made" attachments to retain a partial upper chrome denture where space was extremely limited. The patient had a bag full of previous partials she was unable to tolerate.



The fit surface of the denture illustrating the yellow "push fit" matrices which engage the attachments.



The partial in situ. The lack of clasps leads to a very aesthetic outcome in patients with a broad smile.