

## Why should I go to a periodontist for my dental implant?

Periodontists are the dental experts who specialize in treating the gums and the supporting bone. Therefore, they have special knowledge and training to help patients achieve optimal results and to have their implants look and feel natural.

## New patients are always welcome!

While the majority of our new patients come from the referrals of excellent dentists, we also encourage and accept direct referrals from our loyal patients of record and others who have learned about us through word of mouth.

We are committed to providing you with the highest standard of patient care and our relationship with you is viewed with a deep sense of responsibility.

If you would like to learn how periodontal care could help you or a family member, call us and we will be happy to schedule an appointment.

**In our quest to be your specialist of choice, we've worked hard to provide comprehensive periodontal care with an emphasis on patient comfort. Here are some of the services that we provide:**

- Gentle periodontal exams and treatment
- Oral sedation
- Digital X-Rays (decreased radiation exposure)
- Antibiotic and antimicrobial therapy
- Regular and deep cleanings
- Full-service periodontal surgical care that includes:
  - \* Cosmetic gum procedures to enhance your smile and to restore youthful gumlines
  - \* Advanced implant placement to replace lost or missing teeth
  - \* Bone regeneration to save teeth with advanced bone loss
  - \* Ridge augmentation

**We also offer 24 hour emergency care, patient education and a financing program.**

## About Dr. Brackett

Dr. Jeffrey Brackett has been practicing in the Southern Maine area for 16 years. His goal has always been to help his patients to understand their oral health, address their concerns and develop a customized treatment plan. From cosmetic gum procedures to advanced implant placement, Dr. Brackett and his staff will do their utmost to make your visit comfortable and pleasant.

## Credentials

**Certificate:** Periodontology, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, Nebraska

**Certificate:** General Practice Dental Residency, Long Island, New York

**D.M.D.:** Tufts University, Boston, Massachusetts

**Member:** American Academy of Periodontology  
American Dental Association  
American Academy of Implant Dentistry  
Maine Dental Association  
Maine Society of Periodontology  
Greater Portland Dental Society



**Jeffrey A. Brackett**

D.M.D., LLC

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Cosmetic Periodontics and Implants

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smile!

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## What is Periodontal Disease?

Periodontal disease, also known as gum disease, is a bacterial infection that destroys the attachment fibers and supporting bone that anchor your teeth. It has been referred to as the "silent epidemic" because it is typically painless but responsible for up to 90% of all adult tooth loss. If left untreated it can lead to bad breath, bleeding gums, loose teeth and eventually tooth loss.

## What factors contribute to periodontal disease?

There are many factors, such as: stress, diabetes, bacteria, grinding, clenching, inadequate home care and certain medications.

## What is a periodontist?

A periodontist is a dentist who has become a specialist in the diagnosis and treatment of diseases of the gums and supporting bones of the teeth. In addition, he performs cosmetic, periodontal procedures and dental implants to help patients achieve the smiles they desire.



## What is a dental implant?

A dental implant is an artificial tooth root placed into the jaw to hold a replacement tooth, bridge or denture in place. It is immediately connected with the gum tissues and underlying bone in the mouth. Implants can help adults of any age and they will not develop cavities nor require root canals.

Implants can be placed during an office visit with little or no discomfort. They will allow you to eat the foods you enjoy, smile and laugh with confidence, and dramatically improve your appearance and self-image by providing natural looking and long lasting teeth.

## Our goal

is to improve the oral health of our patients by providing state-of-the-art treatment in a warm and caring environment. We are here to help you keep your teeth in an optimum state of health, comfort and function throughout your lifetime. If you've already lost teeth, we can place and maintain dental implants to help preserve the jawbone to prevent the appearance of premature aging.

## The importance of good oral health.

The benefits of periodontal health include the absence of infection, improved chewing ability and better overall health.

Medical research has begun to show that people with periodontal disease may be at significant risk for other diseases.

**Heart Disease** - Scientists have discovered that people with periodontal disease are almost twice as likely to suffer from coronary artery disease as compared to people without periodontal disease.

**Respiratory Disease** - Several of the respiratory diseases such as emphysema, pneumonia and bronchitis can be affected by bacterial contamination from the gums.

**Pregnancy Problems** - Pregnant women with periodontal disease may be seven times more likely to have a premature and underweight baby.

**Diabetes** - People with diabetes have a greater risk of contracting periodontal disease. Also, new research suggests that a gum infection makes it more difficult to control the blood sugar.

## Did you know...

Research has shown that bacteria that causes periodontal disease can pass through saliva; therefore, children and couples may be at risk of contracting periodontal disease from another family member.<sup>1</sup>

**1. Asikainen, S et al**

Can one acquire periodontal bacteria and periodontitis from a family member? Journal of the American Dental Association 1997; 128:1263-71

# Let us help *you* find your smile!