

Hampton Dental Ask The Dentist 9-28-10 attention Paul Schulteis

Dear Dr. Winter, I've been told that I need to have all my upper teeth removed and have dentures. I was wondering what this would cost me. I would prefer to have the snap in dentures and if possible have them put in the same day the teeth are removed, but I need to know about how much this would cost. I have applied for the Care Credit interest free loan you have on your website at winterdental.com and was approved. Thank you!

Dear Donna, dentures would be the starting place to make sure that the esthetics; speech and smile are exactly what you are looking for. The cost of the dentures is about \$1849 per denture for these immediate or "learning dentures." The extraction fees would depend upon the number of root tips you have and if they are surgical versus simple extractions. Often people need socket preservation or osseous regeneration procedures to make sure there is enough bone to place implants and these fees have to be determined after a comprehensive examination and x-ray visit. If the posterior teeth have been gone for a long time, then the sinus' expand and often times people need sinus augmentation to add bone to the back of the upper jaw to accommodate implants. Implants can cost \$1200-\$2,000 each (depending on the number you need, we offer discounts for multiple implants being placed) and you would need a minimum of 6 implants to have a snap-on-denture without any palatal coverage. The roof of your mouth would not be covered with metal or acrylic if 6 implants can be placed. A snap-on-denture is \$3500-\$7500 depending upon whether we use a metal frame inside the denture so if you add this all up you would be between \$10,700 and \$19,500 plus the cost of extractions and grafting if needed. If a metal bar is made to attach all the implants together the cost is increased for the bar and the milled metal substructure that we place inside these implant overdentures. The advantage of a bar is that all implants are connected so they share the forces of chewing. In a snap-on-denture if cost is a limiting factor we leave the implants as separate "snap" on devices to save on the overall costs. If mini-implants were a possibility it could be half this cost but the bone has to heal and fill in for 7-9 months before they can be done after your

extractions and socket grafting may need to be done to preserve your existing bone.

Mini-implants do not allow for "Upgradeable dentistry"--or "fixed teeth" in the future and are much smaller than traditional implants so they are always our last treatment choice. Remember that dentists have different philosophies of treatment so they may recommend different numbers of implants. As well, the costs of treatment both surgically and prosthetically will vary greatly depending upon the costs of the implants used and the quality of the dental lab making your prostheses! The better the lab, and the higher the quality of the metals and workmanship, the more it will cost the dentist to have made and the higher the fees will be to the patient. We try and use the best labs possible while keeping an eye on the budget of our patients. We would be happy to see you for a complimentary consultation or a new patient comprehensive examination and x-ray visit. Please call our office at 414-464-9021 to schedule and let them know you contacted me via the Internet for a special consideration.

You can see more information about our practice at WWW.WINTERDENTAL.COM where you can access our 4 websites for examples of our dentistry, videos, and photos of the procedures we offer.

I look forward to meeting you.

Sincerely,

Dr. Rick

Richard Winter D.D.S.M.A.G.D.

Master Academy of General Dentistry

Fellowship and Mastership (Implant Prosthetic Section) ICOI

International Congress of Oral Implantologists