

Elgin Cosmetic Dentist Debunks Common Dental Implant Myths

Dr. Dean Lodding dispels misconceptions about dental implants, including who qualifies for the procedure and how natural the results can look.

ELGIN, IL, UNITED STATES, July 22, 2026 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Misconceptions about tooth replacement options often keep patients from pursuing treatments that could significantly improve their oral health and quality of life. Dr. Dean Lodding, a [cosmetic dentist in Elgin](#), notes that confusion surrounding [dental implants](#), one of the most popular solutions in modern dentistry, frequently deters patients from considering them as a viable option.



One persistent myth is that the procedure is painful. In reality, most patients report that the discomfort involved is comparable to that of a tooth extraction, and it is typically well managed with local anesthesia and standard post-procedure care. Recovery experiences can vary from patient to patient, but significant, prolonged pain is not the norm when the procedure is performed correctly and aftercare instructions are followed.

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Dr. Dean Lodding

Another common misconception is that this [restorative dentistry](#) treatment is reserved only for younger, healthier patients. Age alone is rarely a disqualifying factor. What matters more is the overall health of the jawbone and gums, along with certain medical conditions that may need to be managed beforehand. Many older adults can be excellent candidates, provided they have adequate bone density to support the new tooth structure or are open to

preparatory procedures such as bone grafting.

A third myth suggests that the results look and feel noticeably artificial. Advances in materials and techniques have made it possible to closely match the color, shape, and function of natural teeth. When properly planned and placed, the outcome is often indistinguishable from a patient's surrounding natural teeth, both in appearance and in how it feels during everyday use like chewing and speaking.

Finally, many people mistakenly believe dental implants require little to no maintenance simply because they are not natural teeth. While the materials used aren't susceptible to decay, the surrounding gum tissue and bone still require regular oral hygiene and routine dental visits. Neglecting care can lead to complications such as gum disease around the implant site, underscoring the importance of the same daily brushing, flossing, and professional checkups recommended for natural teeth.

"Many patients delay replacing missing teeth because they've heard information that simply isn't accurate," says Dr. Lodding. "The best way to determine whether dental implants are right for you is through a comprehensive examination rather than relying on common misconceptions."

About Dean Lodding, DDS

Dr. Dean Lodding founded Smile For Life Dental in Elgin, Illinois, where he and his team provide cosmetic, restorative, general, and family dentistry services designed to support the health, function, and appearance of patients' smiles. A graduate of St. Norbert College, Dr. Lodding went on to earn his dental degree from the University of Illinois College of Dentistry and later spent a year treating patients on the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota before establishing his own practice. Over the course of his career, he has held leadership roles within the American Academy of Cosmetic Dentistry, including serving as its president, and was among the first dentists worldwide to earn accreditation in cosmetic dentistry. He is also a founding member of the American Academy of Oral Systemic Health, a Certified Member of the Academy of Facial Esthetics, and a recipient of multiple Top Dentist honors throughout his decades in the field. Dr. Lodding is available for interview upon request.

For more information about Smile for Life Dental, please visit drdeanlodding.com or [facebook.com/SmileForLifeDental](https://www.facebook.com/SmileForLifeDental).

To view the original source of this release, click here: <https://www.drdeanlodding.com/dental-implants/elgin-cosmetic-dentist-debunks-common-dental-implant-myths/>

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