

Dental Implant Costs Compared by the Experts.

Smileworks Liverpool

An Exclusive Smileworks Industry Report
Prepared by Dentists to Save you Money



GO ON, SPEND ME ALL AT ONCE

INTRODUCTION

Ever wondered why implants cost what they do? Ever wondered why different dentists quote you all over the place for Implant dentistry? Well wonder no more because here's some unbiased, itemised, no BS advice on the cost of dental implants. If you're looking for general info or to book your Implant consultation then follow the link to [dental implants](#).

Our cosmetic dentists, implantologists and team have spent days researching the true cost of Implants and present this unbiased and informative assessment of the actual cost of implants including prices for single implants, multiple cases and full mouth treatment.

Implant dentistry is not cheap. And we hope this article will answer some of your questions surrounding the cost and where your money actually goes.

SINGLE-TOOTH IMPLANT COST

Many patients ask about implant prices and wonder why the cost is what it is. Here at Smileworks our single implants cost between £1,800-2,200.

Firstly it's important to clarify that implants are not available on the [NHS](#) so you cannot get them cheap – anywhere. Implantology is complicated dentistry – it's technically 'microsurgery' that requires talented dentists with a great deal of training. What's more the materials are expensive and the equipment used to place implants is also expensive to buy and use.

To give you an idea, we have a [CBCT scanner](#) at Smileworks. This is a piece of equipment that helps your implantologist plan your procedure taking into account blood vessels, nerves and bone levels. Some dentists locally and on the Wirral place implants without one. Why? Well probably because a CBCT scanner costs more than a supercar. So when you next see your dentist arriving to work in her brand new Audi R8 you might want to make sure you're getting the job done right.

Implants are a wonderful procedure and Smileworks patients frequently tell us that their implants have literally changed their lives. So here's a quick guide and some resources that will satisfy you that your money is being well spent. If you're interested in getting implants from Smileworks then follow the link to our main page: [Dental Implants](#).

YOU MIGHT NOT EVEN NEED IMPLANTS

Implants are a great solution to gaps and missing teeth and are popular because they act naturally on the bone and jaw creating a healthy restoration that doesn't cause the jawbone to shrink. However, they are expensive and if you're looking for a cheaper option then a dental bridge or partial denture will do the job too.

It's important to come along for a consultation because you cannot decide what it is you need to keep your smile healthy. Only a dentist can do that. And at your consultation you may be told many different things about your smile and condition of your jawbone.

THE NEED FOR A CONSULTATION

Many patients are reticent to come along for a consultation. Maybe it's because they are frightened of how much the treatment will cost or perhaps they are worried that we won't be able to help them.. Then there are patients who are cynical and believe that once they step through the door we are going to force them into huge treatment plans and empty their bank accounts. Well this couldn't be further from the truth.

The reason you must come in for a consultation is that nobody can tell you what you need and how much it will cost until we examine your mouth and take digital X-rays and CBCT scans of your jaw. Do you think that you might have bone loss around the gap? Have you got gum disease? Are you on certain medications that might prolong the healing process? All of these factors will mean we have to treat you with different techniques, tools and strategies. Sometimes it's just pointless to quote random prices at people because they are often out by thousands of pounds – so what's the point.

We could tell you that to be on the safe side you might need X, Y and Z but you come in and it turns out you have lots of healthy bone and the procedure is simple. So how would you feel if we'd quoted you £3,000 and the procedure was actually only £2,000? Or how would you feel if it was the other way around? This is why you need to come along for a consultation.

Most patients are actually surprised at how inexpensive the treatment is!

IS THERE SUCH A THING AS 'CHEAP IMPLANTS'?

During the last recession, many patients researched getting cheap implants and an economy was born around cut-price dentistry. It's only now, a decade later, that the problems with cheap implants are surfacing for many patients. Here at Smileworks we love getting a great deal just as much as the next person. However there are some things that you simply shouldn't try to get on the cheap – and we believe healthcare is one of them.

Implantology is *micro-surgery*. If you were having keyhole surgery or carpal tunnel surgery would you be haggling about the price with your doctor? The simple fact is that if your main concern is price, that is likely to be the main concern of your practitioner too. So beware cheap surgeons.

IMPLANTS ABROAD

During the recession, many patients decided to go and get their implants done abroad in Europe. The idea is essentially sound. Go and get your dental work in a country where the economy is weak and you'll get more for your money. Very low European travel rates from the budget airlines helped this become a reality for many patients. Also advances in 'same day teeth' and **CEREC** technology also helped this market for foreign dental care grow.

Incidentally you can now get **same day teeth** right here in Liverpool for about the same as going abroad.

Prices for implants abroad range dramatically but the thinking was that they were roughly half the cost of getting the procedure done in the UK. The problems are as follows:

- Implant dentistry is **complicated** and practitioners need to be extremely well qualified. You just don't know what you are getting abroad and this increases the risk of the procedure
- If things go to plan then great. However, implant dentistry is often not straight forward. The majority of patients ended up visiting Europe **four, five or even 8 times!**
- **Foreign work is not guaranteed.** If something breaks and it's not your fault you'll have to return abroad. Some foreign dentists won't help you with this.
- When problems happen, many **UK dentists will not touch the work.** This is because they can't get access to records of what's been done.
- When all your travel (and extra trips) are taken into account, **the price for many worked out just the same.**
- The cost of Implant dentistry has reduced dramatically in the UK. You can now get implant prices that make **going abroad uneconomical.**

COST OF IMPLANTS HERE IN THE UK

Here in the UK, implant dentists are subject to the General Dental Council, the CQC and also many voluntary registration bodies. If something goes wrong they will often fix it for free. Also the prices are now much lower than they were before the crash of 2009.

This means you can get a much better service here in the UK and don't need to take the risks outlined above. There are providers in the UK that are offering extremely low prices for implants (about £400) however, you'll soon realise this is not the inclusive price. Implants consist of the actual titanium implant, healing caps and abutments. Then there's the crown or restoration that gets seen in your mouth. Many of the low cost implant dentists are simply advertising the cost of the titanium implant screw only.

When their £400 implant is placed, restored and healed, the cost will likely be £2,000+. The only difference being that you weren't expecting to pay that much and will have got a very nasty surprise in your bill through the post.

We hate dishonesty like this here at Smileworks and are up front about all our prices. What's more you can pay on finance and spread the costs across many months to make it more manageable.

There is simply no such thing as cheap implants. There is always a catch and if you go searching for ways to reduce the single tooth implant cost then you'll likely end up with bigger problems in the future or nasty surprises.

IMPLANT MATERIALS BY STRAUMANN

Here at Smileworks we use [Straumann](#) and [ICX](#) Implants. Take a look at the resources in the links to see the quality of the implant materials that we use here at Smileworks. Not only are they amongst the best providers in the world but good quality implants have additional benefits. These include lasting longer, failing less frequently and causing less potential risk to patients. Here's more about the different parts of an implant that make up the single tooth implant cost at Smileworks.

Implant & Abutment

The implant is the titanium screw that goes into your jawbone and acts as the root of the tooth that you lost. The abutment is a part that screws into the implant and holds the crown in place that you see in your mouth. A significant proportion of the single tooth implant cost is made up by the actual implant.

The implant needs to be made from titanium which is a high quality material but not that expensive. But the titanium is precision engineered to be precisely the correct size and shape. Implants are made to measure with precise accuracy and this is an expensive production process that increases the cost.

The surface of a Straumann implant is also treated with acid etch and also lasers to create a surface that will encourage bone to grow around it. The lasers and acid create grooves that are precisely the same size and shape as the cells that make bone. This is an incredibly complicated process and further adds to the cost of implants. You can learn more about the [SLA surface of an implant here](#).

Healing caps

When the implant is placed in the jaw, the special surface needs time to work and for the bone cells (called [osteoblasts](#)) to do their thing and 'osseointegrate' the implant.

While this is happening, a special healing cap goes in place of the crown to aid the healing process and protect the part of the implant that will eventually support the crown.

Restoration

Once the implant screw has integrated , the crown will be made and fixed on. The crown or restoration is a large portion of the single tooth implant cost. The crown has to be made in a laboratory and by a dental technician. Your technician will apply their scientific and artistic skills to making the tooth look lifelike and beautiful. Here at Smileworks we only use the best labs. This means we get the most aesthetically pleasing restorations.

Placement

So placement is where your implantologist makes a hole in your jaw with special tools and places the implant carefully into it. This is precise surgery and a great deal of skill is required to do it well. Patients are always completely numb and don't feel a thing. For nervous patients, we can even offer you conscious sedation where you'll be given pills that relax you and make the procedure more comfortable.

Healing

Healing time depends on a number of factors. Firstly, there's the actual implant that's used. Teeth in a day or full mouth dental implants can take only hours to be stable because they are made specially to heal once the

entire procedure is complete. On the other hand other types of implants can take weeks or months to heal. If you smoke, have periodontal disease, diabetes or take certain medications then healing can take longer and become more complex. This increases the single tooth implant cost and is part of the eventual price since our time is very valuable.

Restoration

We've already discussed the restoration but the materials used are extremely strong and lifelike. Your lab technician can create teeth that look precisely how you want them. there is nothing that they cannot achieve including colour, shape, translucency and a natural finish.

Itemised Implant Price List

Single Tooth Implant | £1,200-2,200 | Depends on whether you need a bone graft, sinus lift or soft tissue procedures

Multiple Implants | from £1,500 each | More implants will mean that there will be a small saving in costs and materials

CBCT Scan | £500 | this will be taken into account in your treatment plan

Full Mouth Implants | £15,000-25,000 | Prices will be extremely variable and depend on a number of factors

IMPLANTS ON DENTAL FINANCE

Here at Smileworks we offer patient finance options and it's pretty rare these days that patients pay for their treatment up front.

So let's suppose your implants cost £6,000

Treatment Cost £6,000

Deposit £1,000

Loan Amount £5,000

36 Months at 9.9% **£160.16 pcm**

So it's clear to see from this that Implant Dentistry is more affordable than you think. There are also 0% finance options and payment terms from 12-36 months available. Patients can use our credit score analyser so you can see whether you're likely to be approved for finance before you even apply. Also we have online forms that you can do immediately or just take the application home and do it from the comfort of your living room.

So there are some of the reasons why you need to pay for Implant Dentistry. We hope this helps you understand better where your money's being spent on.

Implants are by far the best option for the replacement of missing teeth in many patients. If you would like to come along to Smileworks for a consultation with either Dr Yannis, Dr Krishan or a free treatment coordinator consultation.

Or get in touch on 0151 236 5166 and book your [dental implants](#) consultation today.