While this brochure is designed to address some of the frequently asked questions about peri-implantitis, your doctor remains your best source for information regarding peri-implant health. Your doctor will advise you on specific procedural expectations, warnings, risks, contraindications and potential adverse effects associated with dental implantation and peri-implantitis prevention, treatment and revision therapy, as well as post-operative care instructions and answers to any additional questions or concerns you may have.
Considering a dental implant? Or, maybe you already have one. Now is a great time to understand your risk for peri-implantitis. Just as gum disease can occur around a natural tooth, a similar inflammation can occur around a dental implant, making hygiene, prevention and early detection very important for implant longevity and your overall health.

What is peri-implantitis?
You have probably heard about bacterial plaque and gum disease, or periodontitis. Similarly, peri-implantitis is bacterial plaque and gum disease around an implant that causes inflammation and bone loss. When detected early, peri-implantitis can be managed and the implant can often be maintained. Severe cases, however, result in bone loss that may eventually lead to implant loss.

What are the symptoms & risk factors?
Signs of peri-implantitis are similar to symptoms of gum disease: red or tender gums around the implant and bleeding when brushing or flossing. Just like your natural teeth, implants require regular brushing, flossing and routine dental check-ups for cleanings and plaque control.

Failure to maintain the hygiene protocol recommended by your dentist or hygienist puts you at risk for peri-implantitis. Other risks factors for developing peri-implant disease include:
- Previous gum disease (periodontitis)
- Systemic diseases such as diabetes
- Smoking

Dental implants are an investment in your overall health and well-being. Your dentist and hygienist are your partners in protecting that investment, with steps to help prevent, treat and manage peri-implantitis.

We call it M3thod.

**M3THOD is your pathway to peri-implant health.**

**M1/ Prevent**
Effective peri-implantitis prevention involves closely following the home care hygiene protocol and check-up schedule your dentist recommends. With proper oral hygiene and plaque control, your implant can last a lifetime.

**M2/ Treat**
The key to treating peri-implantitis is scheduling an appointment as soon as any oral inflammation or bleeding is detected, even if it is not time for your regularly scheduled check-up. If you have peri-implantitis, your dentist will take steps to treat it, or refer you to a specialist, and recommend treatment to lower the risk of disease progression.

**M3/ Revise**
In severe cases of peri-implantitis, or when the likelihood of treatment success is low, the implant may need to be removed and replaced in a revision therapy procedure. If a revision is recommended, your dentist or specialist will discuss your options with you and make recommendations that will provide your best chance at improved peri-implant health.
We all want the same thing.

Healthy, long-lasting dental implants

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*Image courtesy of Dr. Ronnie Goené, Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

Partners in peri-implant health

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