

From Fillings to Implants: Discovering the Different Types of Dental Restorations

Thomas Isla*

Department of Oral Radiology, University of Melbourne, Melbourne, Australia

DESCRIPTION

Dental restoration encompasses a range of operations intended to restore and replace teeth that are broken or missing. These procedures are essential for enhancing the general look and health of the mouth in addition to helping the teeth work again. This study discusses about the different types of dental restorations, their benefits, and what to expect from these procedures.

Functions of dental restoration

Dental restoration involves repairing or replacing damaged, decayed, or missing teeth to restore their normal function and appearance. The goal of dental restoration is to repair teeth to their optimal state, allowing for proper chewing, speaking, and overall oral health. Restorations can range from simple fillings to more complex procedures like crowns, bridges, and implants.

Types of dental restorations

Dental restorations come in various types, including crowns, fillings, bridges, and dentures, each designed to repair or replace damaged or missing teeth

Fillings: Tooth decay-related cavities are treated by fillings. The tooth's decaying area is extracted, and materials like glass ionomer, amalgam, or composite resin are used to fill the cavity. Fillings help restore the tooth's shape and function while preventing further decay.

Crowns: A crown is a cap placed over a tooth to restore its shape, size, strength, and appearance. Crowns are used for teeth that are severely decayed, cracked, or after a root canal treatment. They can be made from materials like porcelain, metal, or a combination of both.

Bridges: Bridges are utilized to replace one or more missing teeth. They are made up of one or more prosthetic teeth (pontics) secured in place by dental implants or crowns on neighbouring natural teeth. Bridges assist keep the face in its natural form, improve chewing function, and stop the remaining teeth from moving.

Dentures: Removable prosthetic devices called dentures are used to replace lost teeth. Depending on whether all or just some of the teeth are gone, they might be full or partial. The confidence to eat, speak, and smile is restored with dentures.

Implants: Dental implants are a popular and long-lasting solution for replacing missing teeth. An implant involves placing a titanium post into the jawbone, which serves as a replacement root for a crown. Implants provide a stable, natural-looking solution and help maintain the jawbone structure.

Inlays and onlays: Inlays and onlays are indirect restorations used to repair decayed or damaged teeth. They are custom-made in a dental laboratory and then bonded to the tooth. Inlays are used for cavities in the center of the tooth, while onlays cover larger areas, including the cusps.

Benefits of tooth reconstruction

Tooth reconstruction restores dental function and aesthetics, enhancing oral health and confidence by repairing or replacing damaged or missing teeth.

Restored functionality: Dental restorations help restore the ability to chew and speak properly, which can be affected by missing or damaged teeth. They ensure that the mouth functions as intended, improving overall quality of life.

Enhanced aesthetics: Restorations enhance the appearance of teeth and improve the smile. They can correct issues like discoloration, misalignment, and gaps, contributing to a more attractive and confident smile.

Prevention of further damage: By addressing issues like cavities and damaged teeth early, restorations prevent further decay and damage, which can lead to more extensive and costly treatments later on.

Improved oral health: Repairing damaged or missing teeth helps ensure proper bite alignment and jaw function, which can lower the risk of further oral health issues.

Correspondence to: Thomas Isla, Department of Oral Radiology, University of Melbourne, Melbourne, Australia, E-mail: IslaT@gmail.com

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A guide to the dental restoration procedure

The dental restoration process varies based on the type of treatment. Generally, it involves an initial consultation where the dentist will assess the condition of the teeth and discuss suitable treatment options. For most procedures, one may need multiple visits to complete the restoration, especially if custom-made appliances or crowns are required.

CONCLUSION

Dental restoration plays a vital role in maintaining and improving oral health and function. Whether through fillings, crowns, bridges, dentures, or implants, these treatments repair and replace damaged or missing teeth.