

- You're watching
The Wellness Hour,

news that makes you
healthier, I'm Randy Alvarez.

Today's topic, replacing missing
teeth with dental implants

according to my
first guest, he says,

nobody should be wearing
a loose fitting denture.

He is the go to dentist in
Texas for dental implants.

With us, and he's been
on the program with us

several times before, most
people know who he is,

Doctor Rick Kline, Dr.
Kline welcome to the program

- Thank you for having
me again, Randy.

It's great to see you.

- Always a pleasure to
have you on the show.

Now for people who don't
know your practice,

like who's the typical
patient these days

that comes in for
dental implants?

- It's really three

different types of patients.

It's people that have
lost their teeth,

they're already in dentures,
they're already in partials,

they're wearing partials,
or due to decay,

their teeth are failing
and one by one these teeth

are being lost and the
third type of patient is

the patient with gum disease,
the gums are shrinking,

the bone is shrinking,
the teeth are getting

loose and they're needing help.

And the people with the bad
gums, the shrinking bone,

they know one thing, they're
heading towards dentures,

and they know they don't
want that solution.

- And that's why people
go to you, right,

they want a brand new
set of teeth back.

- They want a
different solution,

the other dentists are
not giving them a solution

for their problems and they're
wanting something better,

they want to be whole
again and they find me

and Smile Texas because of that.

- Now what's changed, like
I had you on the program

about 11 or 12 years ago,
it seems like 20 years ago.

We were talking about the....

- We were definitely
younger, right?

- Yeah, yeah, so what's changed?

Why is it what used to
take you much longer,

like half year, now you can
do it in a couple of visits.

- You know, Randy, really
everything's changed.

I remember how skeptical
you were when I first talked

about the teeth by tonight
procedure years ago.

I've been doing that
for 16 years now

and have done literally
thousands of those procedures

over those years, but
now it's even better.

Modern technology has brought

us some great advancements.

I can go start to finish in a very rapid amount of time now

- Like literally three visits, right?

- [Rick] Three visits

- They meet you the first time, take some imaging,

come back, and then the next they select...

Literally if everything goes right

three days later they have brand new teeth.

- Final teeth, not just teeth that night,

but they're final teeth, by three days later.

- How it's normally done, correct me if I'm wrong,

you go to one place, like the surgeon that does the

surgery for implant, then you go to another doctor

that puts the teeth on top and somewhere else

for the imaging, then they send out to a lab,

and as you saw they kind of hope that it ifts.

At your place, it's
all right there.

The labs there,
everything's there.

That's kind of like your
secret sauce to do it quickly.

- It is, it's a purpose built
facility that can handle

that whole, from start
to finish, everything

the patient needs, right
there at Smile Texas.

- Are there a lot of
people in Texas though

like with an upper
or lower denture?

- Randy, there's tens
and tens of thousands,

I mean we could fill the
Houston Texas Stadium

with people with dentures
or partial dentures.

There are tens and tens of
thousands that are silently

suffering with bad teeth,
you just, you know.

- Well why aren't they
all doing it then?

Okay so if what
you're saying is true,

why aren't all these

denture wearers,

the thousands and
thousands, doing this.

What's your take?

- Well most people think that
once they have a denture,

I'm done, they fall
out of the system.

They don't visit the
dentist, they don't know the

advances in technology, they
don't know how much better, honestly

they don't know how much
better their life could be

if they just some
fixed teeth again.

They could eat the
foods they want.

And talk without
the teeth moving.

And then there's another group,
that are the near dentures

that have those removable
partials that come in and out

and the removal partials
is this whole domino effect

of the partial causes
stress on their good teeth

and then they end
up in a denture.

- So they end up
loosing all their teeth

- They end up in a
denture eventually

- Is that right, how old
can you be to do this?

- Well just this year,
our youngest patient,

she was in her early 20s, we
did two patients in their 90s.

- Why would a 93-year-old
want to do this?

- You have your teeth, you
take eating or granted,

you take speaking for granted.

He came to me with dentures,
they were falling out

of his mouth, he couldn't
talk, he couldn't eat,

he was loosing weight,
his health was declining,

and he said to me, I
don't care if I'm 93,

I don't care if I
live one more year,

I want to enjoy
the life I do have.

At 93 we took him from
dentures to actually

we repaired his bones,
rebuilt the bones, at 93.

I used some stem cell technology to help

boost his own system up and help him heal really well.

But we implants his upper and lower jaws.

And he has fixed teeth now, and he's eating again,

he's getting his strength back.

- So they can kind of eat whatever they want?

- The day of surgery, they can start eating again, that day.

- So how do most of these people hear about you?

- Well a lot of people are referred by people

we've already treated at Smile Texas.

The other way is, this show, we've done five shows,

maybe five times over the years.

And people have seen this show multiple times,

they feel like they know me, but many of them are still

skeptical when they come in, can this really be done?

- Really, they're skeptical?

- Absolutely, I remember the first time you interviewed me,

you were very skeptical because your dad had gotten implants

the traditional method so when I talked to you about

teeth in tonight, I don't think you believed me.

He switched actually to the permanent teeth

that don't come in and out and you were one of the people

that got me to talk him into it.

- Well I'm happy you did it, because the snap in snap out

are just kind of like a glorified denture.

Yes, they can eat better, but we came into this world

with fixed teeth, Randy, and most people want to have

their teeth fixed back again in their jaws.

They don't want to have to think about it,

they want to be able to brush their teeth,

just like they did when their teeth were all healthy.

- So they come into your practice and they say what?

Doctor Kline are you
sure I can do this?

- All the time, all the time,
they think they're the worst

case I've ever seen and
they're very skeptical

that they can be helped
and there's not much

I haven't seen in doing this
for over a quarter century.

- When you say, like in the
consult, they don't even know

how good this is going to be,
like you get excited about it.

- I get so excited because
they don't know what they're

going to look like at the end.

They don't the life changes
that they're going to experience

I have a lot of people that...

I remember one lady who
owned a construction business

and her teeth were so bad
she didn't want to go into

a business meeting, she
didn't want to pitch the job,

it was affecting her career,
she wasn't getting the respect

that she deserved, just a
phenomenal business person.

And she didn't know, but
I knew how much her life

was going to change by
having the teeth replaced.

And her being confident to
be able to walk into a room

and not ever have to
think about her teeth.

Just to be herself, it's big.

- We've had this discussion
and you've explained to me

that people with bad
teeth are kind of judged.

Like in Hollywood, in a
movie, you want to make

somebody look poor, what do
you do, give them bad teeth.

- I think we're
judged all the time.

It's that first impression
and if that first impression

is a bad one and you're
at a job interview

and one looks presentable
and has nice teeth

and has a great smile
or a smile at all.

And the other one has bad teeth,

I mean which one are
you going to choose,

saying their skills
are the same.

- Or at least one that's
smiling, that looks happy.

- Absolutely, it's that window
to that person's personality

- And you say people
start dating again

or at least they tell you
that this motivated them

to start dating again, they
even take selfies on Facebook,

and they irritate
all of their friends.

- They do all of those things,
they do all of those things,

start dating, change
jobs, get promotions.

- And they tell you this,
like they come in and say

hey Doc, you got
to hear, you know..

I could have never have done
this without you helping me.

And for me it's exciting and
it's fun to see these changes,

to see them be able to
enjoy their grandkids

when before they were afraid
to get down on the ground

and kids notice
everything, you know,

Grandma why are
your teeth missing?

Grandma why is your breath bad?

- So these are some of
the motivating factors

that get him to finally do so.

- It's usually something
that creates this push.

Because everybody is
afraid to come see me.

- Nobody likes the
dentist for sure.

- Nobody likes the dentist
and that's really sad

because it keeps people
away, most of it is fear.

Fear of going to the
dentist, fear of pain,

you know we have two board
certified anesthesiologists

on staff, when we
do these procedures,

that patient is comfortable
as he could ever be.

So an IV sedation,
they're just relaxing.

- Yes, it's IV sedation,
we give the patient

little bits of
medication, little bit

at a time, it's very,
very safe there.

- They're still a
little bit conscious.

- Yeah I could talk to
them most of of the time

if I needed them to tip the
chin up or turn left or right.

They don't remember it, I've
had patients that've said

Doc and they call the
office and they thought

they missed their appointment
because they forgot

they had the appointment,
the anesthesia was that good.

It's just made it into a
really positive experience.

- I feel like the only problem
though that if you've been

wearing a denture
like 10 or 20 years

you don't have enough
bone to do this.

Like you can't get
dental implants.

- A lot of people
commonly think that.

There is almost no one

that we can not treat.

If they don't have the bone...

- So that's just not true then, categorically.

- Categorically it's not true, we either rebuild the bone

to make them a candidate for implants,

but most of the time, the vast majority of the time,

I can work with the bone they have.

- Let's take a look at some of the photos.

- Okay, absolutely.

- We have time for a few of those.

That's a big book by the way.

- Thanks, this patient's name was Kim

and she came to us, she'd been suffering from gum disease.

Gum disease is bleeding gums and receding gums,

she had a hard time chewing her food.

The teeth actually started to separate

apart the gum disease was so bad.

She knew she didn't want
to become a denture wearer.

She's too young to
become a denture wearer.

- And you say any
age is too young.

- Any age really is too young,

she's a good looking lady,
you're not going to believe

her after, Randy, she went
elsewhere looking for solutions.

And when she came to us,
it made sense to her,

that in a matter of one
afternoon, we could clean

all this bad disease up,
place the dental implants

in her current bone structure,
and she would walk out

with fixed, non
removable teeth without

ever having to wear a denture.

- [Randy] Let's took
a look at that after.

- [Rick] Pretty amazing, huh?

- [Randy] Yeah

- I don't think she
could believe it

when she saw the mirror
the first time of her after

when we placed those
permanent beautiful teeth

what it did to her
face, I mean she

looks younger, do you not agree?

- [Randy] I would agree
she looks younger.

- I mean she's beautiful.

The cool thing we
found out along the way

that we were working with her,
is she was getting married

not long after that, so now
she's got a beautiful smile

to walk down that aisle to
get those wedding photos

and her overall
health even improved.

- So she would have
been wearing a denture

possibly if she
didn't go to you?

- I guarantee you she would
have been wearing a denture

for something that
she just didn't want.

- Now those teeth, because
they look real, right?

You have a machine, I
mean you have a full lab

that make the teeth
right there on premise.

- Yeah we have some really
cool, new technology

one of the things is facial
recognition technology

it's called Face Hunter and
it's kind of like at the airport

they scan their faces
and they know who we are

and where we are going, right?

And we use that technology
to have the patient with us

when we are designing
their teeth.

Then from that facial scan, so
we have the patient with us,

we have them smiling, we had
their face to the left and

right and when they are
relaxed and their lip position

and where their nose is
and where their eyes are.

That's quite a leap.

- So it allows you to
make the teeth to fit

their particular mouth,
their particular face.

- We design the teeth for them.

It gives us the artistic
ability to have them with us

digitally while we're
designing their teeth.

And you can see the outcomes,
but look at the after, Randy,

this technology
allows us to make

a perfect smile for that person.

- What do you mean?

- Well look at the
front two teeth,

look at the front six teeth,
they follow the lower lip line

We've put little details in
this that are soft and feminine

but we left the I teeth
or the cuspid teeth

with a little point on them
to give it that sexy edge.

- [Randy] A very
fun and sexy look.

- [Rick] Yeah, this is fun.

- So that computer, that's
why the teeth in this after

kind of perfectly
proportion that upper lip.

- They do, we use some of
the technology from Pixar

and Disney, we use these

special, they're called

weigh com boards that
would sit there and by hand

completely digitally
design every little detail

into that smile to give
them these amazing results.

- Now when they look in
the mirror the first time,

do some of these
people get choked up?

And your team, do they ever get

choked up or have to fight it?

- We do this every day
and we're still excited.

We're excited on the day
they get the final teeth,

but yeah a lot of people have
been looking in that mirror

for so long and not
liking who they saw

that it is a tearful, emotional.

- And this could be
done in one afternoon?

- In one afternoon.

- We're going to
take a quick break

and I know you have a
stack of photos here,

we're going to kind
of zoom through those.

And I want to hear a
little bit about the

dental implant process, what
they could expect on day 1.

You're watching
The Wellness Hour,

I'm Randy Alvarez,
we'll be right back.

- I was very self
conscious about my face

being sunken due to lack
of teeth in the back.

I was fearful of eating
in front of other people.

But I am not able
to smile really big.

When I take pictures
with my grandson, Joshua,

he is the love of my
life and smiling big

with him makes all
the difference.

- Small Texas is a very
unique, purpose built facility

for the placement and
restoration of dental implants.

We offer some of the
most advanced technology

in CAT scans, surgical

suite, anesthesiologist,

and one of the most advanced
laboratories in the county

produce our restorations
right here at Smile Texas.

- When I take a bit of
something, to me I still look

at it every time because
it's a perfectly round bite.

And I can bite through
just about anything,

apples, things I wouldn't
eat before, tacos,

it doesn't matter,
anything, you look at it

and it's kind of a mental thing,
but you're like I did that.

So I keep a smile
on everywhere I go.

- I really had a problem smiling
big because the vacancies

in my mouth and I didn't like
to eat in front of people

for fear that these
partials that I had

that weren't permanent
and moved around a bit

and shifted that
they might come loose

while eating in front
of other people.

How I felt when they
took out my temporaries

and put my permanents in
and handed me that mirror

I was very emotional
because, first of all,

they were gorgeous, but I
could tell when I smiled

that my bite was perfect,
that everything lined up,

that I was going to
be able to eat foods

that I hadn't been able
to eat in a long time

that I had that smile that
would bring me the confidence

that I needed to feel
good about myself again.

And feel confident
when I speak to others.

I like to smile, I like
to look people in the eye

when I speak to them, I
don't want to cover my mouth

when I speak, so it
was life changing.

Come to Small Texas, your
fears will be subsided

when you're educated
by the staff

and explain what will happen
and then once they get

this beautiful smile,
they'll just thank

their lucky stars
that they came in

because I know I do
every single day.

- I had major
problems with my teeth

so my gums were
pretty much gone,

my teeth were starting to go,
after talking to Dr. Kline,

and once we went through the
procedure, I learned that I had

had a lot of bacteria
growth in the bone.

I get a lot of
compliments on my teeth

where before, and I went
back and looked through

my pictures because my dad
and my wife and my kids

all made this comment
that I never smiled

and I went to prove them wrong.

So I went back to look
through all my pictures

and I realized that every
single one of my pictures

was this or this or
something along these lines.

And so now I don't
do that anymore.

I get a lot of compliments,
what's different,

did you lose weight, what
did you do difference

your hair, which I
don't have that problem.

You get those kinds
of compliments

I get them all the
time on the teeth.

From a personal standpoint,
and as stupid as it sounds,

when I take a bite
out of something,

to me I still look at it
every time because it's a

perfectly round bite
and I can bite through

just about anything, apples,
things I wouldn't eat before,

tacos, it doesn't
matter, you look at it,

it's a mental thing but
you're like I did that.

So I keep a smile
on everywhere I go.

- You are watching
The Wellness Hour,

news that makes you
healthier, I'm Randy Alvarez.

Today's topic,
replacing missing teeth

with dental implants,
according to my guest,

he says nobody should
be wearing old fashioned

or loose dentures, we're
talking about dental implants

today, he has a
very unique center.

He is Houston go
to implant dentist,

the premier center,
Doctor Rick Kline

I mean you really are kind
of the premier center.

At the level you're doing
it, with your own lab,

with everything under one
roof, you've caught attention

from dentists around the world.

- [Rick] We have

- [Randy] You say the reason
you're able to do it so fast

is because of this
digital workflow.

- [Rick] Yes

- [Randy] Dummy that down for us, what does that really mean

- Everybody else in the country, for the most part,

is doing it the old fashioned that we've done

in dentistry for the last 100 years.

Improvement in digital technology

and design and manufacturing, most people know what

CAD/CAM machines are, they're machines that

take a block and mill out a dental appliance

and they're very precise, we tell the machine

exactly what to do, so we use the technology

to create these beautiful, super strong restorations

and then we put a hand artistic human touch

are technicians make these beautiful...

- Like these gums are hand painted?

- Hand painted on, multiple layers,

they are beautiful and
they are so much stronger

than anything we've
ever had before

and it's all digital now and
it can be done very quickly.

People that didn't want to
spend the eight, nine, ten

months the way most people
can conventionally do this

we can do this very quickly,
in a short period of time

and do it, honestly, better
than the old fashioned way

that we've been doing
for the last 100 years.

- This guy right here, I'm
looking at him from a distance,

it does change your appearance.

Going into this I always think,
Dr. Kline is exaggerating

a little bit, but it does
it changes their whole look.

- John's problem was decay,
bad enamel, bad genetics.

Mom or dad, grandma or
grandpa, that gene gets

passed down and
they've got bad enamel.

With the bad enamel he really

lost 20 years of his life.

One tooth at a time you become

more and more
withdrawn over time.

- So he lost 20
years of not smiling

- Of not smiling, he's
embarrassed to smile

you start growing a
mustache and a beard

and at least guys do
to cover these things.

But you slowly start to
withdraw from society.

And that happened with John,
and part of John's problems

too he was taking
some medications that
gave him dry mouth

and that at the end kind of
really accelerated everything.

But it led him to us, the
turn around we did for John

was in a matter of hours in a
morning we changed his life.

We got out the bad teeth,
we got the infections

out of the gums and the bones,
we placed dental implants,

and put a beautiful
set of teeth on John.

- [Randy] Look at him,
they're look pretty good.

- Do you not agree,
does he look younger,
does he look smarter, I mean...

- Like more
sophisticated actually

- Definitely more
sophisticated but

it was a confidence thing,
I knew when he came in,

we were talking earlier,
I told him, John,

I'm going to change your
life and he didn't believe me

of course, and it was
cool because after that

he sent us a little note
that said you know, I didn't

really believe Dr. Kline
when he said he was going to

change my life, but I am so
happy that I trusted him.

And it's an honor to
help somebody like this.

And he moved out West, it
really started a whole new life

put his old life behind him
and really started a new life

for himself and he's

so much more confident.

And he's so much more happy.

- [Randy] So the teeth did all that for him, just the teeth?

- Yeah I know you don't think teeth are much,

but if you don't like something about yourself,

change it, I mean it's a big thing to him.

It does hold you back and it is important.

- So who does this more, more women or more men?

- Well Randy, the first

it was mostly women coming to see me.

And if there were men it was because the women

drug me to see me, but that's really changed.

In the last 15 years, it's gotten to be almost 50/50.

Men are starting to take better care of themselves.

And it used to be the men would come in and say

Doc I just want to be able to chew, at the end of this

I just want to be able to chew.

And it's kind of progressed
into Doc, yeah I want to be able

to chew but I really
want to look good again.

Men are really getting
into this as much as women.

Look at this women, this is
like a nonsurgical facelift.

Kim came into see us, it was
one of that cascade of events.

One tooth after another,
giving up on her

So what she wanted was a
brand new set of teeth.

And with the teeth
by tonight procedure

we're able to do that
in a matter of a day.

- So she was headed to dentures

- [Rick] She was totally
headed to dentures

- [Randy] She looks
good, looks young.

- She looks great, it's
like almost getting

a nonsurgical facelift
when we put the teeth back

where they are supposed to
be, it helps support the face.

- [Rick] That looks really good.

So you made those teeth
in your in house lab?

- We did, we did,
through the mock ups,

with the digital design,
digital technology,

in a very short period
time, we able to give her

a beautiful set of
teeth that she could do

all the the things she
wanted to do again.

That she could play
with her grandkids,

smile without
covering her mouth.

And eat the foods,
the raw vegetables.

- [Randy] So they can
eat whatever they want

- Yeah, they can eat
whatever they want.

Patients tend to go
on these soft diets

that are really not healthy
when you have bade teeth.

When you go to your
restaurant and looking at

what can I still eat,
that's a problem.

And a lot of people
won't eat when they go to

the restaurant, they
don't eat when they go to

the family reunion,
I hate to say this.

- They don't like eating
in front of people?

- They don't like eating
in front of people

because they are so
uncomfortable and not confident

in eating, but it really
affects their overall health.

Now she can eat
anything she wants,

she can smile freely,
you get the personality,

the sparkle comes
back not their eyes.

And it's amazing, Randy,
it really is amazing.

- You love this, we are
completely out of time

We probably have 45 seconds,
but you really do love this.

- I enjoy it every day, I
get up excited every day

to go to the office
and help people

- We should mention that

medicare does not cover this.

even the best dental insurance,

doesn't cover the cost
of dental implants.

- It's an elective
procedure, nobody ever

plans on being in
these situation.

But you know, most people
use some kind of financing

and things like that
every single day.

- So you have lenders that
you use for dental financing.

- We do, we have
multiple lenders.

- [Ricki] Do they finance it

- Yeah a lot of people
do, they need help.

- Like half of the
people are financing

- Probably about a half and
we have people at the office

to help facilitate
that and help them

make sure they can get the
financing help that they need.

They know they reached
the end of line.

They know they need the help.

The know their life is not
going to be put back together

until they get these
problems solved.

And invite people to come on in,

we do a complimentary
consultation.

Included with that we do
a complimentary CAT scan

so I can evaluate
their bone structure.

- How soon could you
tell them on that

first appointment
whether you can do it?

- That day

- And could you tell them
in three days from now

you are going to have a
brand new set of teeth.

- Absolutely, absolutely.

Yeah, I'm able to, with
very careful pre planning,

we preplan the case
and then they come in

we're ready for
the day of surgery.

And then shortly
after that we can

put the final set of teeth in.

- Do you have more than

their implant procedures,
is that right?

- We do, our laboratory
makes beautiful large teeth

for dentist from all
around the country no.

And we're really enjoying
that and they're enjoying

working with an
experienced laboratory

and I oversee those cases and
communicate with those doctors

and it's been a lot of fun
helping the other doctors

deliver great restorations
for the parents.

- So this is like your
third set of teeth.

- It's a new,
third set a chance.

This is a second
change to have some

really nice teeth
again for these people.

- Alright well thank you
for coming on the show.

Always a pleasure Dr. Kline.

- Thank you, appreciate it.

- You've been watching
the Wellness Hour

news that makes you healthier.

I'm Randy Alvarez, for now
I wish you good health.

- [Narrator] Thanks for
watching The Wellness Hour.

The leader in medical news
with your host Randy Alvarez.

Via authority on health issues.