

Dear Dr. Caplanis,

This is a very belated "thank you" for the wonderful job you did on my dental implant. The tooth is still looking great over a year later.

You asked me to write a little description of my experience. I am sorry it has taken so long, but here it is.

To say I was reluctant to have this procedure done, is an understatement. I was extremely upset when I found out that I had to have a tooth pulled and replaced with an implant. I was fearful of the surgery to extract the tooth (I have a very low threshold for pain) and I was unhappy about the prospect of having a giant, gaping hole in the front of my mouth.

From my first appointment with you until my final check-up, I was happily surprised. You have a warm, friendly staff who, from the first visit, made me feel comfortable and as relaxed as is possible under the circumstances. You and your staff did a wonderful job explaining the procedure in great detail and in answering all of my questions.

The day of the surgery, I was given a pill to calm my nerves. It worked well. I arrived very relaxed and, within a short time, I was given twilight anesthesia to put me to sleep. When I awoke, I was uncomfortable, but not in any great pain. The tooth had been extracted, the metal screw inserted, and even some gum tissue grafts had been done.

I did not experience a lot of pain after the surgery. I was on a restricted diet for a few weeks (lots of liquids), but otherwise, the healing process was not a big issue.

Probably the most uncomfortable part of the entire experience was wearing the flipper. The flipper is similar to a wire retainer, but it is equipped with a replica of the missing tooth. Getting the flipper to fit properly took several visits to my regular dentist. At first it was too tight, so it gave me severe headaches. It also made me lisp, and this was uncomfortable because I am a teacher. Truthfully, the flipper caused the only real pain I experienced. Luckily, I could remove the flipper in the privacy of my own home.

After about 6 months, I was given my new tooth. It fits my mouth perfectly, looks completely realistic and feels just like my real teeth. I honestly forget that it is an implant. I simply could not be happier with the final outcome.

I honestly hope I never have to have another implant, but if I do, I will definitely come back to your office. Thank you again for making an unbearable situation, bearable.

Sincerely Yours,
Robi [REDACTED]