



What is a Dentascan?

A Dentascan is a CT scan of your upper and lower jaws. The scan allows precise measurement of bone stock for titanium tooth implantation. It also gives information about the relationship of the teeth roots to the nerves and other important structures. These images can be reconstructed in any plane and displayed in 3 dimensional images for your specialist.

Who does my scan and report?

The person who operates the equipment is a Radiographer. They are university trained and accredited with the Australian Institute of Radiography (AIR). The person who views and interprets the scans is a doctor specialising in Radiology, known as a Radiologist. The Radiologist will prepare a report for your Health Care Professional.

What should I expect when I have my Dentascan?

All metal objects, such as keys, clips, buttons, coins and mobile phones etc must be removed from the path of the x-ray beam.

You will then be asked to lie on a scanning table that will position you within the CT scanner. You must lie still during the scan, as movement will blur the images. A series of planning scans will be performed at the start to localise the area of clinical interest. Following this, the main scan for images used in diagnosis are obtained. This is usually completed within a minute or two, sometimes within several seconds.

Are there any risks or side effects from my Dentascan?

Your doctor has sent you for this test knowing that the information provided by the scan is more beneficial than the very low risk associated with it. The skill of the operator and the design of the machine ensure you receive the lowest radiation dose possible. Female patients who are pregnant or think they may be pregnant must advise the staff prior to the examination, as a CT scan is usually not performed during pregnancy unless it is an absolute medical necessity to do so. The risks and possible complications will be discussed with you prior to the procedure.

How do I prepare for my Dentascan?

When you phone to arrange your appointment one of our friendly staff will advise you of the preparation and requirements for this scan.

Things to bring along to my appointment:

- Previous films for area of clinical interest.
- Medicare or Department of Veteran Affairs card (as we Bulk Bill all eligible Medicare services).
- Workcover details and claim number (if this is a Workcover claim).
- Referral (this is a legal requirement).

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