

# Bone Augmentation

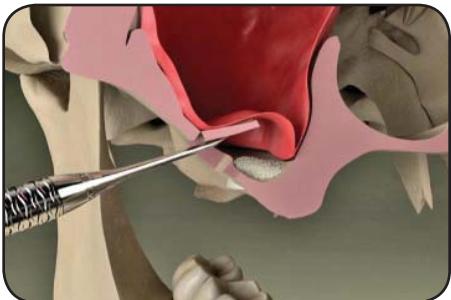
## Augmentation replaces missing bone

When your jawbone has receded or lost its shape, we can often augment it to replace missing bone and help new bone to grow.

Depending on where and why bone loss has occurred, we select the appropriate procedure, which can include:

- ❖ Sinus graft or lift
- ❖ Bone grafting
- ❖ Ridge preservation

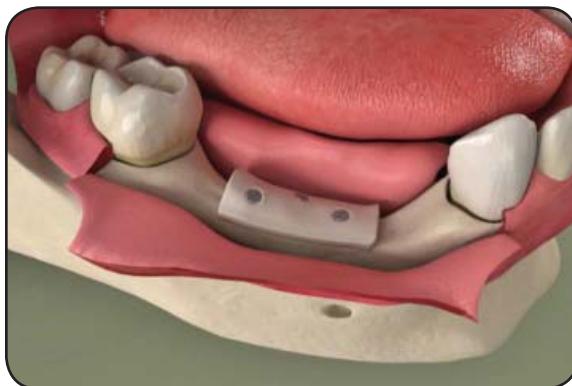
Sinus grafts and lifts thicken the wall of bone that forms the upper jawbone and the floor of the sinus. Bone grafting replaces the height and width of the jaw where bone tissues have receded. Ridge preservation fills the empty socket of an extracted tooth.



*Sinus lift*



*Ridge preservation*



*Bone graft*

## The procedure

For all three procedures, we first prepare the replacement material, which may be your own bone or bone from another source. Then we make sure the area is thoroughly numb.

In a sinus graft, we open a small window into the sinus area above the missing tooth, and then we place bone grafting material on the floor of the sinus. In a bone grafting procedure, we gently open the gums and place grafting material onto the areas where the jawbone has receded. With ridge preservation techniques, we fill the empty socket with bone material after a tooth has been removed.

Depending on the situation, we may also apply platelet-rich plasma to the site. This material is made from a small sample of your own blood, and it enhances bone growth and speeds healing. We may also place a special membrane over the graft to prevent unwanted tissue from growing into the graft site. The last step is to close the grafting site.

Although situations vary, we may need to wait several months after the procedure for the bone to heal before moving on to the next step of your dental treatment.

## The benefits of bone augmentation

A bone augmentation procedure has several benefits. It can recreate a healthy jawbone, provide a solid anchor for dental implants, form an attractively shaped foundation for the gums, and help preserve your healthy smile.