

# Full Mouth Dental Implant Restorations (All-On-4™ Style Treatment)

## *Buyer's Guide*

Tips and suggestions from an industry leading expert regarding questions you should ask your dentist when being evaluated for full mouth dental implant restorations or All-On-4™ style treatment

Courtesy of:

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## Full Mouth Dental Implant Restoration Buyer's Guide Summary

If your teeth are failing due to gum disease, cavities, trauma, or are simply breaking down from years of active use, the All-On-4™ dental implant treatment option can be a positive life changing decision. In addition to providing you with a beautiful smile and incredibly strong teeth for chewing food without worry, this procedure also improves your overall health and restores your confidence.

The All-On-4™ dental implant procedure is widely considered to be the most technically demanding procedure in all of dentistry. When choosing a dentist to perform this procedure, it is imperative that you choose wisely. Just because a dentist can place a dental implant that does not mean he or she can successfully perform the All-On-4™ treatment procedure. For this reason, we have created this buyer's guide to assist you in gathering information to make the best informed decision possible.

Dr. Holtzclaw and the Austin Dental Implant Center team live and breathe All-On-4™ style dental implant treatment. We are among the top 0.1% of all dentists in the United States for the number of successful All-On-4™ style dental implant procedures performed. We actively encourage you to compare us to any other dental office in the world if you are considering All-On-4™ style dental implant treatment. We only want what is best for you which is why we created this guide to assist you in making the most educated decision possible. If that decision leads you to Dr. Holtzclaw and Austin Dental Implant Center, we would be honored to work with you. If that decision leads you to another dental office, we will still be happy that our guide was helpful in assisting you with your decision. Thank you for taking the time to read this guide and we wish you the best of luck!



**Dan Holtzclaw, DDS, MS**  
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# Full Mouth Dental Implant Restoration Buyer's Guide

When being evaluated for full mouth dental implant restorations (All-On-4™ style dental implant treatment), ask your dentist the following questions and compare their answers to the information presented in this guide to help you make the best informed decision possible in pursuing treatment.

## 1. Are you a board certified dental specialist?

YES  NO

Many dentists placing dental implants are General Dentists that have taken weekend continuing education courses to learn how to place dental implants. Such courses may "certify" dentists to place dental implants with as little as 12 hours of training. They are not graduates of a 3-4 year post-graduate residency program that specifically focuses on dental implants and related surgical procedures. Board certified dental surgery specialists such as Dr. Holtzclaw (Diplomate of the American Board of Periodontology and a Diplomate of the International Congress of Oral Implantologists) receive up 12,000 hours of additional training beyond what a General Dentist receives.

## 2. How many full mouth immediately loaded dental implant cases (All-On-4™) have you performed?

\_\_\_\_\_ # of cases performed

Dr. Holtzclaw has successfully performed over 500 full mouth immediately loaded dental implant cases (All-On-4™) which places him in the top 0.1% of all dentists in the world regarding the number of these procedures he has performed.

## 3. Do you perform all of the work yourself or are other dentists required to assist you in completing this procedure?

ONE DENTIST  
 MULTIPLE DENTIST

Dr. Holtzclaw and his staff at the Austin Dental Implant Center perform all of the work themselves for the All-On-4™ dental implant procedure. Many dentists attempting to perform the All-On-4™ dental implant procedure can only complete the surgery or the restoration, but rarely can they do both. In fact, most General Dentists must rely on 3<sup>rd</sup> party lab personnel to heavily assist them in making a simple chairside All-On-4™ transitional bridge on the day of surgery. How many dentists does it take to change a light bulb? For most dentists attempting the All-On-4™ procedure, the answer is 3: the dental surgeon, the Dentist doing the restoration, and the lab person who often heavily assists and guides the Dentist in making the final restoration. Because they perform the All-On-4™ dental implant procedure on a nearly daily basis, Dr. Holtzclaw and his Austin Dental Implant Center staff are all that is needed for this procedure.

**4. Have you published any research on the All-On-4™ procedure?**  YES  NO

Dr. Holtzclaw has published over 50 research articles concerning All-On-4™ and other dental implant related procedures. His work has been featured in esteemed peer reviewed journals such as the *Journal of Periodontology*, the *Journal of Cosmetic Dentistry*, the *Journal of Osseointegration*, the *Journal of the American Dental Association*, and the *International Journal of Periodontics and Restorative Dentistry*.

**5. Have you lectured at major conferences on the All-On-4™ procedure?**  YES  NO

Dr. Holtzclaw has provided over 100 main podium lectures concerning All-On-4™ and other dental implant related procedures. Major international conferences at which Dr. Holtzclaw has lectured include the Academy of Osseointegration Annual Meeting, the American Academy of Periodontology Annual Meeting, the American Academy of Implant Dentistry Annual Meeting, the Southern Academy of Periodontists Annual Meeting, the Colorado Association of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgeons Winter Meeting, the Quintessence Biennial Dental Meeting, the Meisinger High Altitude Bone Conference Annual Meeting, the Future Trends in Dental Implantology International Meeting of Florence, Italy and the World Congress of Ultrasonic Piezoelectric Bone Surgery International Meeting of Jeju, South Korea.

**6. Are you a faculty member at any post-graduate surgical programs?**  YES  NO

Dr. Holtzclaw is a Consulting Faculty Member of the Periodontics Post-Graduate Residency Program for the United States Navy Post-Graduate Dental School in Bethesda, Maryland. Concerning the All-On-4™ dental implant procedure, Dr. Holtzclaw recently provided a 2 day intensive training session to nearly 2 dozen students and faculty of the Periodontics and Prosthodontics Post-Graduate Residency Programs in which he provided numerous lectures and directed live All-On-4™ dental implant surgeries.

**7. What dental implant system do you use in your office?**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Dental Implant Brand**

Certain dental offices in Central Texas offer significantly discounted prices for the All-On-4™ dental implant procedure, but those discounts may actually come at a high cost for the patient in terms of quality. The most widely and successfully used dental implant systems for immediately loaded full mouth dental implant restorations (All-On-4™ style) are Nobel Biocare™ and NeoDent™. Austin Dental Implant Center only uses Nobel Biocare™ or NeoDent™ dental implant systems for immediately loaded full mouth dental implant restorations. Unfortunately, other dental offices typically offset their significantly discounted All-On-4™ prices by using low cost generic or Korean made dental implants that do not have the substantial high quality track record of Nobel Biocare™ and NeoDent™ dental implants. Which implant system is your dentist using? If they not using either of these systems, you should ask yourself why.

**8. Are your All-On-4™ restorations made by Glidewell™ Dental Lab?**

YES  NO

Certain Austin based dental offices offering All-On-4™ style dental implant treatment utilize Glidewell™ Dental Lab in California for their restorations. In fact, some offices tout this fact like a badge of honor. While Glidewell™ is one of the country's largest dental labs and provides high quality products, there are some things you should consider when offices are touting the fact that they use Glidewell™ for their All-On-4™ dental restorations. Firstly, Glidewell™ sells their All-On-4™ restorations at prices that are up to 63% less than other dental labs. If your dentist is saving up to 63% on his lab costs by using Glidewell™, is the price you are being offered dramatically less than other offices? Typically, the answer is a resounding "No." Second, because Glidewell™ lab is located out of town, many of the detailed steps involved with the All-On-4™ dental implant restoration process are difficult to perform and often result in significant delays as your case is bounced back in forth between your dentist's office and the out of town Glidewell™ dental lab. At Austin Dental Implant Center, we utilize our own in-house dental lab which is run by a German Master Laboratory Technician. By utilizing our own in-house dental lab, Austin Dental Implant Center is able to keep costs down and we pass these savings on to our patients. Furthermore, using an in-house dental lab dramatically reduces communication errors and total treatment time in the fabrication of your final All-On-4™ restorations.

**10. What is the fracture rate of your All-On-4™ temporary restorations?**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Fracture Rate**

Full mouth restoration with All-On-4™ style dental implant treatment requires you to wear temporary restorations during the initial 3-4 month healing process. While these restorations are rigidly screwed to the dental implants and do not come out of the mouth during the healing process, they are only made of acrylic and therefore have a higher risk of fracture than your final (permanent) All-On-4™ restorations. Studies evaluating fracture rates of All-On-4™ temporary restorations range from 20-48%. To reduce fractures of All-On-4™ temporary restorations, Dr. Holtzclaw and the Austin Dental Implant Center carefully analyzed fracture rates and weak spots of All-On-4™ temporary restorations. This research allowed Dr. Holtzclaw to develop the "Holtzclaw Classification System" for All-On-4™ restoration fractures which is now considered the industry standard as it was the first published study to evaluate and propose such a classification system. Additionally, Dr. Holtzclaw and the Austin Dental Implant Center developed the patent pending DANTE™ system of treatment. Hidden within the temporary All-On-4™ restoration, the DANTE™ system employs interplaited arched galvanized steel reinforcements tied into titanium implant abutment inserts. This exclusive feature unique to Austin Dental Implant Center dramatically improves the strength and durability of the temporary All-On-4™ restoration and has resulted in fracture rates less than 10%. In fact, the fracture rates of the DANTE™ system are lower than any other studies that specifically examine fracture rates of All-On-4™ temporary restorations. When you ask your dentist about the fracture rate of their All-On-4™ restorations, it is highly likely that they will not be able to provide you with an answer. If they only perform 3-4 of these procedures per year, they are probably not tracking this data. Furthermore, if they tell you that they "never" have any fractures, be wary! Multiple published studies have proven that this is impossible. If your dentist has "never" had a fracture of an All-On-4™ temporary restoration, he probably has not performed many of these procedures. Do you want to be his very first fracture patient?

**11. How much time did the actual Dentist spend with you during the initial consultation appointment?**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Time with Dentist**

At Austin Dental Implant Center, your examination appointment is with Dr. Holtzclaw and he will typically spend up to 45 minutes with you. He will review your medical history, perform a clinical examination, review your CATSCAN, and provide a detailed explanation about ALL of your treatment options. He then personally answers all of your questions. With many other dental offices and corporate chains, the majority of your appointment is spent with a "Patient Consultant" and not the actual dentist. Furthermore, because these offices typically require two dentists to perform this procedure, you don't usually get to meet the second dentist until the actual day of your procedure.

**12. Is the "Patient Consultant" who is doing most of the talking during your initial examination paid a commission?**

YES  NO

Dental offices and corporate chains who utilize "Patient Consultants" to do most of the talking during your initial appointment often pay a commission for each patient that signs up for treatment. This can result in pushy sales tactics and a "hard sell." Austin Dental Implant Center uses no patient consultants and pays no commissions. Your examination and question/answer session is personally performed by Dr. Holtzclaw.

**13. Does your treatment quote include ALL costs?**

YES  NO

At Austin Dental Implant Center, your treatment quote includes ALL costs for the All-On-4™ procedure including the sedation. Other dental offices and corporate chains sometimes provide patients with treatment quotes that DO NOT include all fees for treatment. In fact, we have seen numerous patients whose treatment quotes from other offices which did not include the final restoration. These patients thought that they had paid for everything in full only to later discover that their treatment quote only covered the "long lasting temporary restoration."

**14. Were you shown Before/After photos of All-On-4™ patients who were actually treated by the dentist?**

YES  NO

If you are considering full mouth dental implant restorations with All-On-4™ style treatment, please ask your dentist to show you MULTIPLE Before/After photos of patients that they themselves have actually treated. Many dental offices and corporate chains that offer All-On-4™ style dental implant treatment show prospective patients Before/After photos of patients who were not actually treated by the dentist in the office. Furthermore, many offices will show you only one or two Before/After photos. If the dental office is truly experienced in the All-On-4™ procedure, they should be able to show you multiple Before/After photos of patients actually treated in the office. At Austin Dental Implant Center, we will be happy to show you hundreds of Before/After photos of All-On-4™ patients actually treated by Dr. Holtzclaw.