

TEMPORARY ANCHORAGE DEVICES (TADS)



moshiri orthodontics

for a smile that lasts



Temporary Anchorage Devices, or TADs, are medical grade titanium-alloy mini-screws, ranging from 6 to 12 millimeters in length and 1.5mm in diameter. They are fixed to bone *temporarily*, enhancing Dr. Moshiri's ability to move your teeth in predictable directions. TADs are placed in the bone between roots of the teeth, or can be placed in the bone at the roof of the mouth . The implants are normally placed under topical (gel) anesthesia, with minimal discomfort to the patient. The implants are also removed, in most cases, without anesthesia when Dr. Moshiri has finished using the implant for its desired purpose.

How is a TAD placed and does it hurt?

Placement is minimally invasive and often completed using topical anesthetic gel. Dr. Moshiri will insert the TAD directly into bone using a special instrument. There is little or no discomfort because there are no nerve endings in the bone tissue. The procedure takes about 10 minutes to place per TAD. Once inserted, Dr. Moshiri is able to use the TAD for orthodontic anchorage immediately.

Home care of your TAD:

- Dr. Moshiri will give you Peridex (.12% chlorhexidine gluconate) antimicrobial rinse. This should be used on the end of a soft toothbrush and swabbed around your TAD whenever you brush your teeth (at least 3 times per day) to keep your TAD and surrounding tissues clean. ***Do not rinse with this product as it will stain your teeth.***
- If you experience mild discomfort post placement of your TAD, take Tylenol as you would for a headache. Any associated discomfort should last no longer than a few days of placement, and is usually described as a mild "achy" feeling surrounding the TAD.
- Do not pull or push on your TAD with your tongue or fingers, as these motions may disturb primary healing of the implant and make it loose, and thus not usable. Do not eat anything hard, chewy, or sticky in the area of the implant.

Note: very minor mobility of the TAD is normal and is not a reason for concern.

Benefits of TADs:

- Greater patient comfort and potentially shortened treatment times
- Minimizes procedures such as extractions, root canals, and orthognathic surgery
- Reduces or eliminates use of inconvenient appliances like headgear