Imagine life smiling...

COOKE ORTHODONTICS

Temporary Anchorage Devices (TADs)

What Is A TAD?
It's a very small (diameter 1.5 - 2mm) specially engineered titanium alloy screw which is placed into your gum and jaw bone thereby acting as an anchor point and allows us to move your teeth that would not be possible otherwise.

Will It Be Painful?
Local anesthesia (without a needle) is used to numb a small area of your gum, and the mini implant is then gently inserted. You may experience an odd pressure sensation as this occurs. Once the numbness wears off you may feel some discomfort within the first 24 hours and approximately 50% of patients report taking simple painkillers (e.g. ibuprofen or acetaminophen) to resolve this.

Will It Hurt When It Is Removed?
TADs are simply removed when no longer needed, most of the time without the need for any anesthesia - it's that easy! The TAD site heals painlessly within several days after removal.

How Long Will The TAD Be In Place?
Dr. Cooke will determine how long the mini implant will be required, but in most cases you can expect to have it in place for a few months, however, it can be left in longer as necessary for individual patient requirements.

Should I Expect Any Problems?
Research indicates that TADs do not damage your teeth or other mouth tissues. The vast majority of mini implants remain stable during brace treatment and cause little nuisance. However, on occasion they can become loose prematurely. This is rarely painful, but may warrant mini implant replacement. If you have any questions or concerns about your treatment please speak to Dr. Cooke.

What Do I Need To Do?
Rinse this area with a anti-bacterial mouthwash twice a day for the first five days. During treatment, dip a small toothbrush in anti-bacterial mouthwash and use it to gently clean around the top of the mini implant. Avoid using an electric toothbrush on the mini implant itself. Don't fiddle with it!

What If The Implant Causes Irritation?
Place a small amount of orthodontic wax over the head of the TAD. If the irritation persists please contact Dr. Cooke.