A 44-year Success Story

Sven Johansson has had oral implants longer than anyone else on Earth.

Longevity comes from careful planning, quality products and treatment, and conscientious follow-up.

By Dr. Christer Dagnelid

Gösta Larsson of Gothenburg, Sweden, was the first patient to be treated with implants by Professor Per-Ingvar Brånemark. That was in 1965. When Larsson passed away in 2006, he had had his implants—still in place and fully functioning—for more than forty years.

Brånemark’s second patient, Sven Johansson, also of Gothenburg, received his implants in 1967. This year will mark the 45th anniversary of his treatment, which makes him a part of living history in the field of osseointegration. Sven’s missing dentition was restored with two full arch gold/ acrylic bridges supported by a total of 11 Brånemark System implants in the upper and lower jaw. Further developed by Nobel Biocare, this signature system is still widely used and much appreciated today.

All too common story

Like so many other members of his generation, Sven had had problems with his teeth from an early age. Born in 1925, by the time he was in his 40s, he was completely edentulous. The usual prosthetic solution at that time—the 1960s—was treatment with full dentures.

Dentures didn’t suit Sven well, however, and he experienced major problems in his relationships to other people as a result. As with so many other denture wearers, he had difficulty eating and he felt insecure among other people as a result. As with so many other denture wearers, he had difficulty eating and he felt insecure among other people as a result. As with so many other denture wearers, he had difficulty eating and he felt insecure among other people as a result. As with so many other denture wearers, he had difficulty eating and he felt insecure among other people as a result. As with so many other denture wearers, he had difficulty eating and he felt insecure among other people as a result. As with so many other denture wearers, he had difficulty eating and he felt insecure among other people as a result. As with so many other denture wearers, he had difficulty eating and he felt insecure among other people as a result. As with so many other denture wearers, he had difficulty eating and he felt insecure among other people as a result. As with so many other denture wearers, he had difficulty eating and he felt insecure among other people as a result. As with so many other denture wearers, he had difficulty eating and he felt insecure among other people as a result. As with so many other denture wearers, he had difficulty eating and he felt insecure among other people as a result. As with so many other denture wearers, he had difficulty eating and he felt insecure among other people as a result. As with so many other denture wearers, he had difficulty eating and he felt insecure among other people as a result.

Over the last 30 years, I have participated in and performed thousands of Brånemark System dental implant cases. High-quality products, skilled clinicians, good teamwork and an individualized recall system have led to great success and implant longevity for me, my colleagues and—most importantly—for our patients.

The experience we have gained since Gösta Larsson and Sven Johansson were first treated by Professor Brånemark has taught us that good implant-related dental care must be based on a long-standing relationship between the patient and dentist, where the number and frequency of return visits are tailored to the different stages of life.

I take my hat off to Sven Johansson, who is rapidly approaching 90, and Professor Per-Ingvar Brånemark. Through a combination of boldness and insight they have helped millions of orally handicapped people return to a life of dignity over the last half-century.