**$2200 smile with no gap**

Health Reporter Ella Black  |  Sunday Mail (SA)  |  May 14, 2011 11:43pm  |  3 comments

Annette Davis before and after the snap-on smile. Picture: Andrea Leube

Source: Sunday Mail (SA)

**PERFECT teeth can require an inordinate amount of time in the dentist’s chair and cost thousands of dollars.**

But more and more South Australians are opting for a new device that is a fraction of the cost of veneers, is pain free, and will give you a perfect smile instantly.

The Snap on Smile, which ranges in price from $2200 to $2500 for a full upper or lower piece, simply fits over a patient’s existing teeth and is sold enough to smile, eat and talk with.

Made from a space-age crystallised resin, similar to what is used in artificial heart valves, the SOS is also stain resistant and lasts for up to five years.

Grandmother Annette Davies had struggled with dental problems for more than 40 years before discovering the Snap on Smile.

Having lost two of her front teeth because of jaw weakness because of osteoporosis, Mrs Davies initially had crowns which kept falling out.

She was told her only other options were dentures or expensive implants that would have required a bone graft. "I thought I would have to have a denture and I was dreading it," she said.

"I gag when I brush my teeth, let alone having a plate in my mouth, but I never would have wanted to go out of the house with the gap in my teeth."

"I'm supposed to take it out at night but the Snap on Smile is so comfortable that sometimes I forget. It has saved my life."

Dentist Dr Timothy Goh said the Snap on Smile was a popular alternative for those who could not afford veneers, which could cost more than $20,000.

"It is suitable for patients with missing teeth, who hate the bulkiness and ugly metal hooks of traditional partial dentures, who are gaggers, or are medically compromised," he said.

"It also suits patients with short, worn, discoloured or broken teeth, hides mild crowding, gaps and even suits patients with grinding problems."

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