

Autoimmune Disease Rarely Rules Out Dental Implants, Dentist Says

November 23, 2026

November 23, 2026 -
Oaks Dental, a Calabasas dental studio holding a 5.0-star rating across more than 190 verified Google reviews, is pushing back on a widespread assumption: that an autoimmune diagnosis disqualifies a patient from dental implants.

The question comes up regularly in implant consultations from patients with lupus, Sjogren's syndrome, rheumatoid arthritis, Crohn's disease and oral lichen planus. Some are told outright that their immune system rules out implant treatment permanently. The published evidence tells a more specific story. Autoimmune conditions affect an estimated 8% of the United States population, according to the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, and NIH fact sheets on women's health research report that roughly 80% of people diagnosed are women. That overlap matters locally. Autoimmune disease is diagnosed disproportionately in women, and tooth loss becomes more common with age, so the two groups intersect heavily across the communities Oaks Dental serves: Calabasas, Hidden Hills, Woodland Hills, Agoura Hills, West Hills and the Parkway Calabasas and Mulholland Highway corridors.

"A diagnosis is not a disqualification, and a blanket no does patients a disservice," said Dr. Kourosh Keihani,

DDS, cosmetic and restorative dentist at Oaks Dental. "Our approach focuses on the medication list, the bone and the disease activity, then coordinating with the treating rheumatologist."

The research supports a case-by-case reading. A 2024 systematic review published in Cureus analyzed 19 studies of implant patients with autoimmune conditions and reported an overall survival rate of 96.2% at one year, including 94.6% survival across 389 implants in 142 patients with oral lichen planus and 95.8% across 316 implants in 111 patients with Sjogren's syndrome. The authors concluded that survival was comparable to rates reported in the general population, where implants succeed in roughly 90% to 95% of cases after 10 years. A separate 2025 scoping review in Clinical Oral Implants Research examined the drugs used to manage autoimmune disease, noting that antiresorptive medications carry a documented risk of medication-related osteonecrosis of the jaw and that immunosuppressants have also been described as a risk factor for it. That review also found implant losses in these patients tend to occur early, before the implant is loaded.

Both reviews point to the same follow-through: the Cureus authors identified daily oral hygiene and long-term follow-up as decisive factors in keeping implants stable, which carries extra weight for patients whose condition or medication reduces saliva flow, since dry mouth lets plaque build up faster around implant surfaces. Taken together, the literature points toward the same conclusion Keihani applies in the operatory: the medication list and current disease activity shape the decision far more than the diagnosis on the chart. Oaks Dental performs that workup in house, using cone beam CT imaging to measure bone depth, nerve position and sinus anatomy volumetrically rather than estimating from a flat two-dimensional X-ray, alongside an intra-oral scanner and same-day restorations under one roof. nih + 3

"Patients told no for years deserve a real examination," said Dr. Tariq Jabaiti, DDS, founder of Oaks Dental. "We are committed to giving each patient a clear picture of what their case allows, including an honest no when implants are not right."

Patients across Calabasas and the western San Fernando Valley who live with an autoimmune condition and want a dental implant candidacy evaluation, including cone beam CT imaging and a medication review coordinated with their physician, can reach the Oaks Dental team at (818) 431-2000 or at https://oaksdentistry.com.

This information is provided for educational purposes only and is not a substitute for professional medical advice, diagnosis or treatment. Always consult a qualified healthcare provider for personal health decisions.

About Oaks Dental

Oaks Dental is a modern dental studio in Calabasas, California, founded in June 2025 and led by Dr. Kourosh Keihani, DDS, a University of Southern California graduate, and Dr. Tariq Jabaiti, DDS. The practice provides preventive, cosmetic and restorative care, including dental implants, veneers, Invisalign and same-day crowns, supported by cone beam CT imaging and laser dentistry. Oaks Dental is located at 5000 Parkway Calabasas, Suite 308, Calabasas, CA 91302. Phone: (818) 431-2000. Website: https://oaksdentistry.com

###

For more information about Oaks Dental, contact the company here:Oaks DentalDr. Kourosh Keihani18184128349oaksdentalca@gmail.com5000 Parkway Calabasas Ste 308, Calabasas, CA 91302, United States

Oaks Dental

Oaks Dental is a general and cosmetic dental practice in Calabasas, California, serving patients throughout Calabasas, Woodland Hills, Hidden Hills, Agoura Hills, and West Hills.

Website: https://oaksdentistry.com/

Email: oaksdentalca@gmail.com

Phone: 18184128349

