In some situations there may be insufficient of your own bone available to stabilise the placed implant. This may have been predicted or may not have become apparent until the implant placement. Professor Coulthard may occasionally need to use Bio-Oss® material with or without Bio-Gide® to stabilise the implant so you should read the following information and inform him before the surgery if you do not agree to their use.

**What is Bio-Oss®?**

Bio-Oss® is a bone replacement material that is used to increase the body’s own bone. Bio-Oss® is composed of the hard, mineral portion of natural bone and has a structure very similar to that of human bone. It is therefore well accepted by human bone tissue and serves as a guide-rail for the new bone growth.

The starting material is carefully inspected bovine (cow) bone that has undergone treatment with patented process for purification and sterilisation. Included amongst these processes is the treatment of Bio-Oss® at high temperature for more than 15 hours, after which it is highly purified and finally sterilized.

**What is the function of Bio-Oss®?**

Bio-Oss® is a solid scaffold which serves as a guide-rail to allow new bone to grow. This scaffolding material enables and facilitates bone formation in the area where the operation is performed. It is inserted into the operation area in the form of grains. Your own body slowly grows into the Bio-Oss® material, which at a later time is gradually broken down by the body.
Are there alternatives?

As an alternative to Bio-Oss®, one can use the body’s own bone, which is taken from a different location, for example the chin. Other animal and artificial materials are also available but these do not generally have the same track record of good success.

What is Bio-Gide®?

Bio-Gide® is a membrane made of collagen that is sometimes used to cover the bone replacement material.

What is Bio-Gide® made from?

Bio-Gide® is composed of highly purified natural collagen obtained from pigs.

Does the Bio-Gide® membrane have to be removed in a second procedure?

The collagen membrane becomes completely broken down by the body; hence a further operation to remove it is unnecessary.

Are there any Independent Quality Controls?

The manufacturing processes of Bio-Oss® and Bio-Gide® are subject to a Quality Assurance System based on international guidelines (ISO 9001 / EN 46001). These processes are checked once every year by acknowledged, independent testing institutes and international authorities.

Bio-Oss® and Bio-Gide® are medical devices that satisfy the safety standards and conditions required by European Union (CE – Certification) and the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

Do Side Effects Occur?

As with almost all natural and artificial materials incompatibility and allergic reactions are possible and can never be fully excluded. However because of the high degree of product purity such reactions have been limited to a few mild individual cases. If you experience any reactions tell your surgeon.