



Study to bone up for teeth

IF all you wanted for Christmas was your two front teeth, new research could help your wish come true more easily.

Griffith University scientists are developing artificial bone to help replace missing teeth, which will make getting dental implants a less painful procedure.

A four-year study is being undertaken by PhD candidate and periodontist Jamil Alayan at the university's School of Dentistry and Oral Health.

Dr Alayan and his team are using the latest tissue engineering technology to produce synthetic bone scaffolds that can be grafted into a patient's jawbone.

Dr Alayan said the operation usually used bone derived from a patient's jaw, but it involved significant pain and nerve damage.

"The big benefit is the risks of complications using this method will be significantly lower," he said.