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## When gingival recession is rescued by periodontal plastic surgery: A clinical case report

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**Introduction:** Gingival recession is the exposure of the tooth root surface resulting from displacement of the gingival margin below the cemento-enamel junction. It is relatively prevalent in the general population and compromises dental and gingival aesthetics with dentine hypersensitivity. It can be localized or generalized and the etiology of its development is multifactorial including trauma from inadequate tooth brushing, anatomic variations, plaque-induced inflammation and uncontrolled orthodontics movements.

**Aim:** The purpose of this case report is to assess the esthetic correction of localized gingival recession using two combined periodontal plastic surgery procedures and its long-term evaluation. The part of the prophylactic management to prevent potential future recessions is also enhanced.

**Methods:** A 15 year old patient was referred to periodontology service at Mustapha Algiers University Hospital Center for assessment and treatment of gingival recession and localized sensitivity. Clinical evaluation revealed Miller's Class I gingival recession on 13. No plaque accumulation was detected in the affected site. There was no gingival recession associated with adjacent teeth. There was no bone loss on the mesial and distal aspects of the affected tooth. To restore harmonious appearance of the gingiva, we combined coronally positioned flap with connective tissue graft techniques. The evaluation period used was extended to six months from the last surgical treatment to provide soft tissue maturity and esthetics outcomes.

**Results:** Significant increase in keratinized and attached gingival tissues and reduction of height and width of recession were obtained. Gain of root coverage was 100% with great improvement in attachment level. Prevention of recession was accomplished and the results were stable after a one year follow up. Patient-reported outcomes were satisfaction, positive effect on dentinal hypersensitivity and esthetics.

**Conclusion:** In the limitation of the presented case, this study suggests that highly predictable root coverage is possible for single-tooth recession defects, using two combined periodontal plastic surgery procedures. These techniques could be proposed to preserve aesthetics. The role of patient motivation is a determinant factor on treatment outcomes.

### Biography

Dr. Omar Rahim has completed his Bachelor of Dental Surgery at the age of 23 and completed his post-graduation in periodontology from Medicine University in Algeria. He is practicing as major postgraduate in periodontology service in Mustapha University Hospital Center, Algeria. He has presented few papers in national and international conferences.

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