

Tunnel technique in root coverage surgery

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Background: Esthetic correction of gingival recession is an important goal of periodontal therapy. Various surgical procedures have been described to achieve root coverage in the past decade. This presentation focusses on a recent approach known as the tunnel procedure in combination with connective tissue graft (CTG) or Acellular Dermal Matrix (ADM) graft in managing gingival recession defects. Tunnel technique in previous studies show many advantages, including early tissue healing because of increased blood supply, good esthetic result, excellent patient cooperation, better graft stability. The purpose of this case series is to demonstrate the use of tunnel technique with ADM graft in treatment of gingival recession.

Materials and Methods: A 25 recession defects in 3 female patients with class I and II Miller recession defects with an average recession depth of 2.8 mm were treated using a tunnel technique with (ADM) graft. Probing depth and clinical attachment level were recorded at baseline and 12 months after the surgery.

Results: Results showed an average of 85% defects coverage and 100% defect coverage in 60% of the defects after 12 months.

Conclusions: This suggests that root coverage with ADM graft using tunnel technique can be a viable alternative to traditional technique, especially for multiple recession defects.

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