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## **Orthodontic patients' perception of the gummy smile**

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Nowadays the people around the world pay special attention to dento-facial aesthetics. To optimize aesthetics frontal area of the dento-alveolar arches it is important to obtain a harmonious and symmetric gingival contour by eliminating the gummy smile and correcting the placement of smile line. In this paper we reviewed some morphological parameters defining the smile, including the number of millimeters of gingival mucosa exposed during the smile at the level of central incisors. We took into consideration a number of 900 orthodontic patients aged between 9 and 25 years. We considered, as a "gummy smile that requires therapeutic correction", the situations where the gingival tissue visible in smile has a size of at least 3mm at the level of maxillary central incisors. The patients who inherited the gummy smile or acquired defects gum (e.g. gingival hyperplasia, gingival elephantiasis) and gingival inflammatory processes were excluded from the sample. From the 900 patients, 158 of them had gingival smile (17.55%), most of them being diagnosed with Class II/2 malocclusion. From those 158 patients with gingival smile, only 67 patients (or caregivers in case of children), representing 42.4%, included in their presentation reasons the presence of gummy smile. In other cases the doctor was the one who informed the patient about the gummy smile appearance and about the fact that it can be ameliorated, in all cases patients requiring the correction in their following therapeutic treatments. We focus on the possibility of gummy smile amelioration after orthodontic treatment.

### **Biography**

Ligia Vaida has completed her PhD in 2008 from "Iuliu Hatieganu" University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Cluj-Napoca, Romania. She is orthodontist and works in her private praxis in Oradea and as Assistant Professor at the University of Oradea, Faculty of Medicine and Pharmacy. She has published more than 100 papers including articles "in extenso" or abstracts in reputed journals or as scientific communications in different congresses. She has also been serving as an editorial board member of two journals indexed in the International Data Base.

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