



Proposed Treatment

About the proposed treatment:

Surgical periodontal treatment may include:

1. Cutting and lifting up a small area of the gums around the teeth to view the underlying structures (bone, root) for disease or injury.
2. Cutting and lifting up a small area of the gums around the teeth to remove diseased or excess gum tissue, clean tooth surfaces or smooth and reshape the surrounding bone so that diseased gum tissue can heal and reattach itself.
3. Moving gum tissue taken from elsewhere in your mouth to the problem area to create thicker gingiva and/or cover the exposed root surface. This is called a gingival graft. Tissue is usually taken from the roof of the mouth.

Benefits and alternatives:

Surgical periodontal treatment can help to create a clean environment in which your gums can heal. It also helps reduce the chances of further gum irritation or infection by making it easier for you to keep your teeth clean. Given your condition, there are no effective alternative treatments for treating severe gum disease and keeping the affected teeth.

Common risks:

1. **Bruising** - Minor bruising after surgery is a normal response and is no cause for alarm. It will improve in 7-14 days.
2. **Swelling** - Swelling is a normal occurrence after surgery. To minimize swelling, apply an ice pack (bag of crushed ice, bag of peas/corn, towel filled with ice) to the cheek in the area of surgery. Ice is most effective if applied for 20 minutes and then removed for 20 minutes in succession throughout the first day. You should rest or sleep with your head slightly elevated. If possible, try also to sleep on the side opposite the surgery.
3. **Stiffness** - Some jaw muscle stiffness is common, especially after longer procedures. This is normal and will improve in 7-14 days. After the first day, moist heat application with a warm wash cloth and Ibuprofen will help relieve some of these symptoms.
4. **Muscles** - Holding your mouth open during treatment may leave you feeling stiff or sore and your lips red or cracked, causing difficulty for you opening your mouth wide for several days.
5. **Pain** - You should begin taking pain medication before you feel the local anesthetic wearing off. For moderate pain, take 400-600mg Ibuprofen (Advil, Motrin) every 4-6 hours. Alternatively, you may take acetaminophen (Tylenol), 500-1000mg every 4-6 hours. For severe pain, the prescribed medication should be taken as directed. Do not take any of the above medication if you are allergic, or have been instructed by your doctor not to take it. If you run out of medication please contact our office. Do not suffer needlessly in pain. If you are experiencing an adverse reaction to any of the medications, such as nausea, vomiting, a rash or severe stomach irritation, discontinue the medication and contact our office.
6. **Bleeding** - Some minor bleeding or redness in the saliva is normal for 24 hours.
7. **Infection** - Because treatment involves contact with bacteria and infected tissue in your mouth, you may also experience an infection, which would be treated with antibiotics.
8. **Appearance/Sensitivity** – In certain procedures, the removal of gum tissue from around your teeth may make them appear longer, and may expose the lower edge of the crowns or fillings. You may require additional treatment to protect these areas or improve the appearance of these teeth. Exposed roots could make your teeth more sensitive to hot or cold.
9. **Failure of Treatment** - In a small number of patients (usually under 5%) a graft does not “take”. This is usually caused by excessive shrinking of the graft tissue, smoking, or the patient knocking the graft loose due to improper home care. Therefore it may be necessary to redo the graft. This would be done after a healing period of approximately three months. Usually, but not always, the second graft will “take”.

The success of this treatment depends in part on your efforts to receive regular professional maintenance (cleanings) as directed, brush and floss daily at home, and follow other recommendations.

Consequences of not performing treatment:

If you receive no treatment or ongoing treatment is interrupted or discontinued, your gum condition would continue and probably worsen. This could lead to further disease of gum tissues, tooth decay above and below the gum-line, deterioration of bone surrounding the tooth and eventually, the loss of teeth.

I understand that Dr. Hallett and the team at Discover Dentall will give their best professional care toward accomplishment of the desired results. Every reasonable effort will be made to ensure that the surgery is completed successfully, although it is not possible to guarantee perfect results. I further understand that I am free to withdraw from treatment at any time. I also give permission for photography, filming, recording and x-rays of the procedure to be performed for the purposes of marketing, teaching and research, provided my identity is not revealed.

I certify that I have had an opportunity to read and fully understand the terms and words within this consent and the explanations made. I acknowledge that Dr. Hallett or a Discover Dental team member has answered all of my questions related to this procedure to my satisfaction. I understand this consent form and I request Dr. Hallett to perform the discussed surgery.

Patient Name

First Name:

Last Name

Signature

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