



What does the term “tissue biotype” mean?

The term “tissue biotype” is used to describe the anatomy of bone and overlying soft tissue of the periodontium. Biotypes will be described as thick or thin.

How does tissue biotype affect gum recession?

A thin periodontium displays more prominent roots, lack of attached gingiva, dehiscences (absence of bone over the facial surface) and fenestrations (a window in the bone through which a portion of the root may be seen). Because the soft tissue overlying the bone is also thin, recession and exposure of the root surface often results from minimal trauma or irritation. Studies show that the incidence of fenestrations and dehiscences may be as high as 20% in the population. However, in a thick periodontium, the underlying thick bone supports the soft tissue and significantly reduces the formation of recession defects.

Fatima Robertson, DDS, PA

915 West Exchange Pkwy, Ste. 280 Allen, TX 75013

214-509-9011/469-519-0124 fax

dr.robertson@cepi-allen.com

www.cepi-allen.com

Diplomate, American Board of Periodontology



What does treatment involve?

Treatment involves grafting the area of concern with a soft tissue graft from the palate or donor source. This serves to increase the zone of attached tissue, add volume/thickness to the existing tissue and reduces the likelihood of additional gum recession. Thereby, converting the tissue biotype from thin to thick.

Case: A 42 year old man presented with a history of progressing recession defects at the facial aspect of teeth #'s 22-27. He has a prior history of orthodontics in which the teeth were moved too far facially. Note the root prominences and lack of attached tissue. After a clinical assessment, the tissue biotype was diagnosed as thin. Treatment included soft tissue grafting of the facial aspects of teeth #'s 22-27 with a soft tissue graft.

before



after



Laying the Framework for a Beautiful, Healthy Smile...