

Gum Grafting Surgery - Risks & Benefits



Showing an area of gum recession. Clearly, the gum line needs correction. If left untreated, may lead to the exposure of the root. Root exposure may result in sensitivity, infection or an inability to correct the recession.



Showing the same area of gum recession following successful gum grafting surgery

What is happening to my tooth?

Gum recession can be the result of a variety of factors, including genetics. You may experience recession on a single or numerous teeth. Treatment should be undertaken before recession advances to the point of root exposure which may result in more advanced symptoms.

How is it done?

The surgical procedure is performed with the use of local anaesthetic. Usually a very thin rectangular piece of gingiva (gum tissue) is taken from the palate (roof of your mouth). This palatal gingiva (donor tissue) is then attached onto the tissue below the recession. Sutures and/or a special type of tissue glue are used to hold the graft in place. A small surgical dressing (periodontal dressing) which is painlessly removed along with any sutures at the post-surgical appointment may also be placed. The palatal (donor) area completely regenerates within a few weeks. The grafted (recipient) site attaches within 2-3 days and the bond gradually strengthens over several weeks.

What should I expect after the surgery?

In terms of recovery, most, but not all patients report they are able to return to regular activities the day following treatment. Complete post operative instructions are provided on the day of treatment. Sutures will be placed and removed 10 days later. You will be required to eat softer foods during that time. **If the graft is in any way disrupted, the graft may fail.** A nominal re-treatment fee of \$300 will apply if the graft needs to be re-done as a result of interference. The majority of our patients enjoy successful grafts without any need for re-treatment.

Possible Side Effects:

As with any surgical endeavour, there are side effects of which you should be aware: These possible effects are usually transient and in most cases do not remain to be of concern. They include, but are not limited to: possible temporary increase in tooth sensitivity, mostly to cold, temporary swelling, bruising, bleeding or infection. Most of our patients report that they are able to return to work and normal activities within 1-2 days with minimal discomfort.

Contact Us:

By Phone
416.512.1146

By Email:
info@drgaller.com

Hours of operation:

Mon - Wed: 9am - 5pm
Thurs: 1pm - 6pm
Fri: 9am - 2pm

After hours emergency:

Dial 416.512.1146 and press 5 as soon as the voicemail greeting begins and your call will be routed to Dr. Galler directly. If you are unable to reach him via phone, email drcg@rogers.com.

*Please note:
After hours contact should be reserved for emergencies only. We are always pleased to serve you during regular business hours.*

Remember!

Post operative review aids in optimal treatment results. Please attend your appointments as they are scheduled .