

Commonly Asked Questions:

Q: Will esthetic gingival recontouring hurt?

A: Only “novocaine“ is necessary to perform esthetic gingival recontouring. During the visit you will feel nothing once the area has been numbed. When the “novocaine“ wears off, there may be mild discomfort. Medication will be prescribed to control any discomfort you might experience. This procedure will not cause you to miss work, etc.experience. This procedure will not cause you to miss work.

Q: How long does esthetic gingival recontouring take?

A: The visit to perform esthetic gingival recontouring is about 50 minutes long. Dissolving stitches are placed. One or two 10 minute check-ups may be scheduled.

Q: What is the cost of esthetic gingival recontouring?

A: The cost of esthetic gingival recontouring will vary with the situation. Your periodontist will discuss this with you before proceeding with treatment.

Q: How well will esthetic gingival recontouring work?

A: Esthetic gingival recontouring is highly predictable. If the procedure is carried out correctly, the end result is a healthy, more esthetic appearance.

Esthetic Gingival (Gum) Recontouring



ESTHETIC GINGIVAL RECONTOURING!

Improving Your Periodontal Health and Maximizing Your Esthetic Potential

Permanent teeth erupt until they contact opposing teeth. Once this contact is made and tooth position is established, the gum continues to move down, exposing more of the tooth until reaching the junction of the crown and root. This movement is why permanent teeth seem to get longer as children pass through adolescence.

In some instances, the tissue does not move down the permanent tooth as it should. The result is excess gum over the crowns of the teeth. This is called Incomplete Passive Eruption. The excess gum does not attach to the enamel of the tooth crown, and results in a potential gum pocket, which traps bacteria and leads to periodontal disease.

In addition to potential periodontal health problems, incomplete passive eruption results in an unnatural, short tooth appearance, and a “gummy smile”.

Fortunately, incomplete passive eruption is easily treated by gently reshaping the gum and bone surrounding the teeth, to position the gum at a more natural and esthetic level. Following such treatment, the gum is placed where the crown and the root of the tooth meet, the gum pockets are eliminated, and esthetics is dramatically improved.



The patient presents following completion of orthodontics with incomplete passive eruption. Excess tissue covers the teeth, resulting in gum pockets and an unnatural appearance.



Following esthetic gingival recontouring, the gum has healed at the appropriate level, revealing the natural shapes of the teeth and greatly improving the health and esthetics of the patient.