

MULTIPLE ADJACENT RECESSION DEFECTS TREATED WITH CORONALLY ADVANCED FLAP AND ACELLULAR DERMAL MATRIX IN TWO DIFFERENT GINGIVAL THICKNESS POPULATIONS: 6 MONTH FOLLOW-UP

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Gingival thickness is known to have an impact on root coverage procedures, with thicker flaps at baseline generally achieving higher root coverage. In this controlled clinical trial 22 patients contributed with 2 adjacent Miller I and II defects each. Patients were divided into different groups (thick or thin gingiva) based on their initial gingival thickness and a threshold value set at 0.8 mm. The primary outcome was percent root coverage at 6 months, while secondary outcomes were recession height, recession width, keratinized tissue width, probing depth, clinical attachment level and complete root coverage. All data was collected by an examiner, blinded to the initial group assignment of the patient. Results showed no significant differences between or within groups for the parameters percent root coverage and complete root coverage. Recession height and width were significantly different between baseline and 3 months and baseline and 6 months, while gingival thickness was different between groups at each time-point.

Gingival thickness also changed within groups from baseline to 3 and 6 months while it remained stable between 3 and 6 months. The selected therapy yields stable results over time with no significant difference between groups, despite a trend for higher root coverage values in the thick group.