

Soft tissue and bone augmentation techniques to correct tissue deficiency when placing and restoring maxillary anterior dental implants

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The anterior maxilla presents with unique challenges for dental practitioners because the goal is dental implant placement in such a way to allow creation of esthetic and functional restorations that are in harmony with adjacent teeth and a patient's unique personality. One of the major factors to accomplishing this is having adequate tissue contours in the dental implant site so that soft tissue around the implant site is consistent with that of adjacent teeth. During dental treatment planning factors such as those related to bone and ridge dimensions, positioning of implants, gingival phenotype, and other factors such as smile line and smile length affect both the pink and white esthetic outcomes of maxillary implant restorations. When defects exist in soft tissue they can contribute to esthetic failures in the maxilla. This presentation reviews treatment planning in the anterior maxilla, soft tissue and bone dimensions that are necessary for esthetic and functional success as well as techniques that are utilized to correct tissue deficiency in the anterior maxilla.

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