

SOFT TISSUE MANAGEMENT[®]

What is Soft Tissue Management?

Soft Tissue Management is an individualized plan to eliminate infection of the gums and root surfaces. An appropriate plan will be chosen by your dentist, hygienist, and you. The hygienist will perform the treatments to help eliminate infection, make recommendations to help you more effectively clean your teeth daily, and guide you through our efforts to achieve and maintain oral health.

What is Root Planing?

Root planing is the treatment of the diseased root surfaces below the gumline. A routine prophylaxis (cleaning) emphasizes cleaning the teeth above the gumline in a generally healthy mouth. Root planing focuses on eliminating tartar and plaque below the gum and detoxifying the root surfaces where the disease occurs. Obtaining smooth roots and flushing out the pockets allows for healthy reattachment of the gums to the root surfaces.

What do we hope to accomplish with Soft Tissue Management?

- Gums that do not bleed. Health gums DO NOT BLEED!
- Fresher breath and taste
- Gums that are not red, swollen, or tender
- Knowing how to effectively maintain good oral hygiene
- Reduced pocket depths
- Control of Periodontal Disease

What do we need from YOU, the patient, to make this treatment a success?

- Completion of the periodontal therapy prescribed by your dentist
- Thoroughly cleaning all tooth surfaces two times a day
- Maintenance of regular recare visits

WHY A 3-MONTH PERIODONTAL RECARE VISIT?

Your Soft Tissue Management Program is a non-surgical approach to control periodontal disease. There is NO CURE for periodontal disease; it can only be managed or controlled.

The bacteria that causes periodontal disease re-establishes in 3 month after treatment. A 3-month RECARE visit is critically timed to disrupt this bacteria in pockets greater than four millimeters in order to disable the destructive process as its critical stage. This critical stage is when bacteria and their poisons do the most harm to the supporting structures, namely, the periodontal attachment.

For patients with adult periodontist, supportive 3-month recare is no an option – – but a requirement for successful therapy.*

Waiting longer than three months for recare may result in advanced inflammation and may require anesthesia to eliminate discomfort when treating. You recare interval will be determined by your hygienist and dentist to best manage your oral health.

Patient's Signature

Date

* American Dental Association