

Orthodontic tooth movement and development of gingival recession Christos Katsaros

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Understanding the association between orthodontic tooth movement and the development of gingival recession is important given the large number of adolescents and adults undergoing orthodontic treatment every year.

Orthodontic tooth movement can support periodontal health through adaptation of the alveolar bone and the gingival tissues but may induce gingival recession when teeth are moved outside the alveolar envelope. However, the available scientific evidence does not give a definitive answer to the question whether orthodontic treatment is a major risk factor for the development of gingival recession in the long-term. The same is true regarding the role of individual patient-related or treatment-related contributing factors.

When treating gingival recession in orthodontic patients, special care has to be given in the analysis of the specific topographic characteristics of the individual case as this will dictate the need for orthodontic preparation prior to surgical intervention.

This presentation will: (a) discuss the role of active orthodontic treatment and fixed retention in the development of gingival recession, (b) illustrate the clinical situations that need orthodontic preparation prior to surgical coverage of gingival recession.



He is Professor and Chair at the Department of Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics, University of Bern, Switzerland since 2008.

He obtained his dental degree from the University of Thessaloniki, Greece, and received his 4-year orthodontic training under Professor Rolf Berg at the University of Saarland, Germany, where he also completed his doctoral thesis (Dr. med. dent.) and his habilitation (Venia Legendi).

Professor Katsaros worked also as a researcher at the Göteborg University, Sweden, where he completed a Ph.D. (Odont. Dr. /Ph.D.).

In 2022 he was awarded the Sheldon Friel Memorial Lecture from the European Orthodontic Society (EOS), while in 2023 he received an Honorary Doctorate (Dr. h.c.) by the University of Medicine and Pharmacy "Carol Davila" Bucharest.

Professor Katsaros is author or co-author of over 200 publications and has given many lectures internationally. His current research interests include the elucidation of the molecular mechanisms that control face development and wound healing in CLP as well as the prevention and therapy of gingival recession in orthodontic patients. He serves as Associate Editor for the American Journal of Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics since 2015 and he is editorial board member or reviewer for several international scientific journals. Professor Katsaros is Past President of the European Orthodontic Society (EOS) and an Active Member of the Angle Society of Europe.