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## The cervical area in the esthetic zone: The importance of restorative /periodontalrelationship Mauro Pedrine Santamaria

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Gingival recession (GR) is very prevalent problem in clinical practice, affecting a substantial part of the adult population. Approximately 50% of GR defects are associated with root damage due to the presence of non-carious cervical lesions (NCCLs), giving rise to a combined defect (CD). Frequently, when there is a NCCL in areas of GR, the probability of obtaining complete root coverage through treatment is reduced. In addition, it was observed that GRs treated by connective tissue graft-based procedures were more likely to result in an apical shift of the gingival margin after 20 years of follow-up when NCCLs are also present and in cases of CD, where the NCCL involves the cemento-enamel junction (CEJ) and the cervical area of the anatomic crown, root coverage procedures may not be able to cover the entire length of the CD. Therefore, CDs warrant different treatment plan strategies, depending on how the NCCL affects the cervical area. In order facilitate the decision-making process and select the best treatment option for each case, it is important to classify the tooth surface in areas of GR according to the presence or absence of a visible CEJ and the presence or absence of a step. This presentation aims to 1) help clinicians to classify the tooth surface in areas of gingival recession; 2) show a decision-making process based on the most relevant scientific evidence to deal with CDs.



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