



Post-Orthodontic Gingival Enlargement

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Clinical Image

Adolescents with orthodontic treatment experience often gingival enlargement. This condition starts with inflammatory gingival swelling which is commonly seen in adolescents with poor oral hygiene, local stimulation of orthodontic devices and changes in sexual hormone levels [1,2].

Many factors can complicate gingival inflammation and induce gingival fibrosis and hypertrophy, such as reduced plaque control, chemical and physical irritation of adhesives, mechanical band stimulation, food impaction, orthodontic force and periodontal remodeling [3].

In some cases, gingival enlargement can occur despite of absence of gingival inflammation, this can be attributed mainly to the gingiva's response to the mechanical forces exerted by orthodontic appliances, resulting in the remodeling of the periodontium and tooth movement [4].

Gingival hypertrophy induced by orthodontic treatment should undergo standard periodontal treatment. In some cases, just like ours, the problem can persist, requiring a gingivectomy [5].

Keywords

Orthodontic treatment; Gingival enlargement

Competing Interests

The authors declare no competing interest.

Authors' Contributions

All the authors have read and agreed to the final manuscript.

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Figure 1: Gingival hypertrophy in the site of the mandibular canines after orthodontic treatment.

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