

Periodontal Regeneration

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Periodontal regeneration is a technique that aims to regenerate the damaged tissue around periodontally compromised teeth. The regenerative process aims to use scaffolds, cells, and growth factors to enhance biological activity.

Keywords: periodontal regeneration ; GTR ; biomaterials ; growth factors ; biologics ; periodontitis

Periodontitis is a multifactorial disease characterized by microbially-associated, host-mediated inflammation that results in loss of periodontal attachment, eventually leading to tooth loss [1]. Periodontitis is the sixth most prevalent disease for mankind [2] and is a public health problem since it is so widely prevalent, causes disability [3], and numerous clinical and experimental studies have shown the presence of an association between periodontitis and some systemic diseases, in particular cardiovascular diseases, diabetes, lung diseases, and pregnancy complications [4][5]. The goal of periodontal therapy is to arrest progressive attachment loss, through the control of infection, to prevent tooth loss [6]. Probing pocket depth reduction as a surrogate outcome variable is validated by data demonstrating lower risk for disease progression and tooth loss [7][8] associated with the absence of bleeding on probing [9][10]. Periodontal pockets related to intraosseous defects often remain after nonsurgical treatment and could increase risk of progressive periodontitis [11][12] and, as such, are often considered to require surgical intervention. Based on the studies of Melcher (1976) [13], who developed the concept of using barrier membranes to “guide” the biological process of wound healing, in the mid-1980s clinical reports showed that intraosseous defects have potential for healing through regeneration using barrier membranes [14][15]. Today we know which bio-clinical principles regulate periodontal regeneration: wound stability, space provision, and primary intention healing [16]. Many randomized controlled trials and systematic reviews have shown that periodontal regenerative therapies can achieve better treatment outcomes compared to open flap debridement in the treatment of angular defects [17][18][19]. Several techniques and biomaterials have been studied for periodontal regeneration of intraosseous defects, but from a histological and clinical point of view, guided tissue regeneration (GTR), enamel matrix derivatives (EMD), and decalcified freeze-dried bone allograft (DFDBA) are the most effective approaches to periodontal regeneration [20][21][22][23][24]. A recent consensus report of the American Academy of Periodontology recommended surgical intervention as the treatment of choice for intraosseous defects [25].

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