

LIP REPOSITIONING -AN ALTERNATE COSMETIC TREATMENT FOR GUMMY SMILE

INTRODUCTION – Excessive gingival display (EGD) or “gummy smile” is a non-pathological condition causing aesthetic disharmony of more than 3 to 4 mm of gingival display while smiling. For gummy smile, individual or combined aetiologies can be present that can either be dentoalveolar or non-dentoalveolar in origin. Identifying the aetiology is paramount before any surgical treatment.

CHIEF COMPLAINT- A 20 year old female patient reported with the chief complaint of gummy smile.

DIAGNOSIS is based on facial, lip and periodontal analysis.



- Mild Vertical Maxillary Excess (VME)
- Maxillary anterior teeth had smaller crown height



- 4-5 mm of gingival display was evident on smiling.
- adequate width of attached gingiva and vestibular depth was evident.

TREATMENT-



Borders for 2 mm gingivectomy was marked with an indelible pencil



Post gingivectomy view.



Planned mucogingival incision outlined.



Mucogingival incision after excision of split thickness flap



6-0 vicryl sutures were placed



Post operative view (3 weeks) demonstrating pronounced reduction in gingival display.

CONCLUSION- Excessive gingival display is a true aesthetic concern for many patients. Cases with mild to moderate VME, and/or hypermobile upper lip can be successfully treated with lip repositioning surgery as it effectively shallows the vestibule and restricts mobility of the elevator smile muscles and upper lip.