

Regeneration

The main cause of periodontal disease is bacteria in the form of a sticky, colorless plaque that constantly forms on your teeth. However, many factors (see main brochure) can cause periodontal disease or influence its progression.

Your bone and gum tissue should fit snugly around your teeth like a turtleneck around your neck. When you have periodontal disease, this supporting tissue and bone is destroyed and pockets develop. Eventually, too much bone is lost, and the teeth need to be extracted.

Your periodontist has recommended a regenerative procedure because the bone supporting your teeth has been destroyed (see figure 1.0). These procedures can reverse some of the damage by regenerating lost bone and tissue.

During this procedure, your periodontist folds back the gum tissue and removes the disease-causing bacteria. Membranes (filters), bone grafts or tissue-stimulating proteins can be used to encourage your body's natural ability to regenerate bone and tissue.


**Healthy
Bone
Level**



*figure 1.0
X-ray showing
severe bone loss*



*figure 2.0
X-ray showing healthy bone
level restored after periodontal
treatment*



As you can see, there are many options to enhance support for your teeth and to restore your bone to a healthy level (see figure 2.0). Your periodontist will discuss your best options with you.

What are the benefits of this procedure?

Eliminating existing bacteria and regenerating bone and tissue helps to reduce pocket depth and repair damage caused by the progression of periodontal disease. With a combination of daily oral hygiene and professional maintenance care, you'll increase the chances of keeping your natural teeth — and decrease the chances of serious health problems (see main brochure) associated with periodontal disease.



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