Treatment concepts for soft tissue regeneration with Geistlich Mucograft®
Acknowledgements

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Why are soft tissue graft alternatives needed?

In recent years there has been a change in the direction of the treatment concept for edentulous patients towards an increasing awareness of the significance of dental aesthetics. Although bone is the supporting framework, the quantity and quality of the soft tissue around teeth and implants gain progressively in importance.

What would you choose?

Autologous soft tissue graft... ... or Geistlich Mucograft®?

Geistlich Mucograft®, the autologous soft tissue graft alternative, benefits patients and physicians alike. This off-the-shelf soft tissue graft eliminates the need for harvesting tissue from the patient, in turn, shortening surgical time, reducing the probability of complications, and minimizing pain. Geistlich Mucograft® is a highly biofunctional collagen matrix that supports good integration and soft tissue regeneration. It interfaces naturally and harmoniously with the patient’s own tissue for efficient recession coverage or regeneration of keratinized tissue.

References:
6 McGuire MK & Scheyer ET. J Periodontol. 2010 Aug;81(8):1108-17 (Clinical study)
Geistlich Mucograft® – Evidence based

Clinical and scientific evidence, proving the effectiveness of Geistlich Mucograft® is continually gathered by Geistlich Pharma AG. To date, many soft tissue treatments with Geistlich Mucograft® have been documented.* These clinical data, together with the findings of several independent preclinical and clinical publications†-‡ and the consensus of many Geistlich Mucograft® Round Tables** have resulted in accurate technical guidelines for the use of Geistlich Mucograft®.

Scientific evidence pillars of Geistlich Mucograft®

- More than 150 surgeons involved from 13 countries
- More than 300 long-term* documented cases
- Several independent scientific publications†-‡
- More than 20 national and international Geistlich Mucograft® Round Tables**

Technical Guidelines for Use of Geistlich Mucograft®

3 McGuire MK & Scheyer ET. J Periodontol. 2010 Aug;81(8):1108-17 (Clinical study)

* 6-months or longer follow-up . Data on file, Geistlich Pharma AG, Wolhusen, Switzerland
** Monaco, USA, Poland, Italy, Belgium, UK/Ireland/Nordics, Romania, Spain/Portugal, Switzerland, Germany, France, Brazil, Finland, Chile, Greece, Thailand, Israel, Australia, South Korea, Turkey, Russia...
Geistlich Mucograft® is a unique (US Patent No. 6,713,085) collagen matrix designed specifically for soft tissue regeneration as an alternative for autologous soft tissue grafts. The collagen matrix was developed taking the free gingival graft as a model (figure 1). The collagen of Geistlich Mucograft® is specially processed to favor immediate blood clot stabilization (figure 2). This leads to early vascularisation,\(^1,2\) facilitates soft tissue cell ingrowth\(^1\) and good integration of the collagen matrix with surrounding tissues (figures 3, 4 and 5)\(^1,2\)

**Figure 1**
Natural model free gingival graft (histology; courtesy of Dr. Thoma).

**Geistlich Mucograft® collagen matrix (scanning electronic microscopy; data on file, Geistlich Pharma AG, Wolhusen, Switzerland).**

**Figure 2**
Geistlich Mucograft®, the collagen matrix consists of specially processed collagen (scanning electronic microscopy).

**Figure 3**
Histology showing early vascularisation of Geistlich Mucograft® 15 days after implantation (mouse model). Arrow indicates the formation of blood vessel. Circles show soft tissue cells in the collagen matrix (courtesy of Prof. Dr. mult. Sader, Dr. Ghanaati).\(^1\)

**Figure 4**
Soft tissue cell ingrowth into Geistlich Mucograft®. Histology 30 days after implantation (mouse model). ST: soft tissue; GMGcs: Geistlich Mucograft® compact structure; GMGss: Geistlich Mucograft® spongy structure (courtesy of Prof. Dr. mult. Sader, Dr. Ghanaati).\(^1\)

**Figure 5**
Complete soft tissue integration of Geistlich Mucograft® within human connective tissue 6 weeks after clinical implantation, without any signs of foreign body reaction. Circles show soft tissue cells in the collagen matrix. (courtesy of Prof. Dr. mult. Sader, Dr. Ghanaati).\(^1\)

A New Dimension for you...

Easy Handling

Geistlich Mucograft® offers all the benefits of an off-the-shelf product and is easy to handle compared to autologous soft tissue grafts.¹

Ready to use: Direct from the blister to the defect without pre-treatment or pre-hydration.

Trimming to defect shape: After measuring the defect, the collagen matrix is trimmed to the desired size while dry.

Easy to suture: The outer compact structure provides optimal suture pull-out strength.

Dry application to the defect: The collagen matrix moistens rapidly as a result of its marked hydrophilicity (courtesy of Dr. Zabalegui).

Good adherence: The soaked Geistlich Mucograft® adapts spontaneously to contours and adheres well to the defect (courtesy of Dr. McGuire).²

Unlimited availability and consistent, constant quality: The likelihood of unexpected events during surgery is reduced and gives freedom to choose gentler surgical procedure for the surrounding tissues (e.g. flaps without releasing incisions; courtesy of Dr. Abundo).³

² McGuire MK & Scheyer ET. J Periodontol. 2010 Aug;81(8):1108-17 (Clinical study)
³ Abundo R & Corrente G. „Chirurgia plastica parodontale Trattamento estetico delle recesioni gengivali“. ACME Edizioni, 2010 (Book)
Less pain and morbidity: The absence of the donor site significantly reduces post-operative pain (graph 1). Additionally it avoids post-operative complications such as numbness, which often perseveres for several weeks.\(^1\)\(^2\)

Less surgical chair time: Without harvest of autologous grafts, surgery time is reduced by 30% (statistically significant) when using the off-the-shelf collagen matrix compared to connective tissue grafts (graph 2).\(^1\)\(^4\)

Faster soft tissue healing: Early healing of a surgical wound in open healing situations is significantly faster when covered with Geistlich Mucograft\(^*\) than in spontaneous healing.\(^5\)

Natural soft tissue color and structure: Natural texture and color match to surrounding native tissues are obtained after treatment with Geistlich Mucograft\(^*\).\(^6\)\(^7\)\(^8\)

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\(^3\) Soileau KM & Brannon RB. J Periodontol. 2006 Jul;77(7):1267-73 (Clinical study)


\(^6\) McGuire MK & Scheyer ET. J Periodontol. 2010 Aug;81(8):1108-17 (Clinical study)


\* Mucograft\(^*\) (prototype) exhibited highly similar physical, mechanical and biological properties to the final product Geistlich Mucograft\(^*\) differing only in the porcine collagen source used.
Treatment concept: Gain of Keratinized Tissue

Investigators still cannot agree on the importance of the presence of keratinized tissue. Various studies have shown, however, that lack of keratinized soft tissue around implants and teeth can have negative consequences in both function and aesthetics. 1,2

**Soft tissue recession**

A recent study has shown that lack of keratinized buccal soft tissue around implants caused gingival recession over a period of five years. 1

**Inflammation and attachment loss**

There is scientific evidence that the presence of keratinized mucosa has a significant effect on the health and stability of the soft tissue, 3,4 while lack of keratinized soft tissue around implants is associated with inflammation and attachment loss. 2

**Increased plaque accumulation**

Patients with a low width of keratinized tissue showed increased plaque lingually and more frequent bleeding at the implant. 1

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**Lack of keratinized tissue around implants is associated with**

- Gingival recession over a period of five years 1
- Soft tissue attachment loss 2
- Increased plaque accumulation lingually 1
- Inflammation of the soft tissue 2
- More frequent bleeding 1

**Presence of keratinized tissue around implants is associated with**

- Significant effect on the health and stability of the soft tissue 3,4

**Proven Effectiveness**

Treatment with Geistlich Mucograft® yields a similar amount of keratinized tissue gain as with either the connective tissue graft (CTG) or free gingival graft (FGG). 3 In addition, Geistlich Mucograft® provides higher treatment safety for gaining keratinized tissue around implants compared to connective tissue grafting while eliminating the morbidity of a harvest site. 5

**Treatment with Geistlich Mucograft® yields**

- gain of keratinized tissue comparable to CTG® or FGG®
- higher treatment safety than CTG®
- no harvest-site morbidity

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Gain of keratinized tissue around teeth

Surgery by Dr. Adrián Guerrero (Málaga)

**Aim:** Gain of keratinized tissue in the anterior-inferior region.

**Conclusion:** In some cases, the absence of attached gingiva is related to discomfort during brushing, persistent gingival inflammation and muscle pulling. In this case, Geistlich Mucograft® was used with the aim of gaining keratinized tissue in the buccal aspect of two lower central incisors, avoiding the harvesting of a free gingival graft from the palate. The final outcome, 6 months after surgery, shows a band of keratinized tissue with good color and texture match. The result of the procedure met the patient’s expectations as brushing can now be properly executed without any discomfort. No attempt was performed to cover the exposed roots at this stage; however, the current clinical situation is now favorable, if a second surgery for root coverage is desired.

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<td>Lower Jaw</td>
<td>Anterior</td>
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Material: Geistlich Mucograft®

Technique: Split-thickness flap and open healing

1. Pre-operative situation with absence of buccal keratinized tissue on teeth 31 and 41. The patient indicated pain during brushing.
2. Preparation of the surgical bed; a split-thickness flap is elevated and sutured apically.
3. After trimming to the defect size, Geistlich Mucograft® is sutured to the surgical bed with 5.0 resorbable sutures.
4. Post-operative situation after 1 week (suture removal).
5. Nice uneventful re-epithelialisation 2 weeks after surgery.
6. Situation 6 months after surgery. Note the 2–3 mm gain of keratinized tissue in the buccal aspect of 31 and 41.
Augmentation of width of keratinized tissue around prosthetic restoration

Surgery by Prof. Dr. Mariano Sanz and Dr. Ramón Lorenzo (Madrid)

Aim: Augmentation of the width of keratinized tissue around prosthetic restoration, avoiding the patient morbidity caused by autologous soft tissue grafts.

Conclusion: Mucograft® (prototype)* is as effective and predictable as connective tissue graft (CTG) to gain an adequate width of keratinized tissue. The collagen matrix shows excellent handling properties and can be used successfully in an open healing situation, reducing significantly patient morbidity and surgery time compared to CTG.

Jaw | Region | Restorative Status | Gingival Biotype
---|---|---|---
Lower Jaw | Posterior | Implant | Thick

Material: Geistlich Mucograft®

Technique: Split-thickness flap and open healing

1 Pre-operative image. Note the minimal amount of keratinized tissue around the premolar and molar sites.
2 Split-thickness flap elevated to prepare the surgical bed for the soft tissue device.
3 Mucograft® (prototype)* is trimmed in dry state to the defect size.
4 The collagen matrix, Mucograft® (prototype)*, is sutured to the prepared surgical bed and left exposed for healing.
5 Healing of the soft tissue, 10 days after surgery before suture removal.
6 View immediately after suture removal. Note the rapid re-epithelialisation of the treated site.
7 Post-operative view after 1 month.
8 Situation after 3 months.
9 Presence of a band of keratinized tissue (4 mm) 6 months after treatment.


* Mucograft® (prototype) exhibited highly similar physical, mechanical and biological properties to the final product Geistlich Mucograft® differing only in the porcine collagen source used.
Increase of width of keratinized tissue around implants

Surgery by Dr. Doina Panaite and Dr. Allan Charles (Pasadena)

**Aim:** Increasing the width of keratinized tissue around implants with Geistlich Mucograft®, while also achieving vestibule creation and oral hygiene access improvement.

**Conclusion:** Geistlich Mucograft® can be used as an alternative to significantly increase the zone of keratinized and attached tissue around existing implants. In addition, good texture and color match to surrounding native tissues was observed on the mucogingival tissues regenerated with the collagen matrix.

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<td>Upper Jaw</td>
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<td>Thick</td>
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**Material:** Geistlich Mucograft®

**Technique:** Split-thickness flap and open healing

1. Pre-operative view. A small band of keratinized gingiva is present.
2. The band of keratinized gingiva is split and a split-thickness flap is elevated exposing connective tissue and periosteum.
3. Geistlich Mucograft® is sutured to the recipient bed and left exposed.
4. Underneath the fibrin clot, the area appears to granulate 1 week post-operative.
5. Excellent wound healing 4 weeks after surgery.
6. Post-operative follow-up after 2 months.
7. Surgery site view 3 months post-operative.
8. Lugol’s iodine staining delineating keratinized tissue at 6 months.
9. Mucogingival appearance (4 mm of keratinized tissue) 6 months after surgery.
Gain of keratinized tissue around teeth

Surgery by Dr. Enzo Vaia (Naples)

**Aim:** Increasing the width of keratinized tissue without harvest of autologous soft tissue graft.

**Conclusion:** The collagen matrix Geistlich Mucograft® may be used successfully to increase keratinized tissue around teeth without the need of harvesting free gingival graft from the palate. The aesthetic outcome is optimal and stable over time (1 year).

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**Material:** Geistlich Mucograft®

**Technique:** Split-thickness flap and open healing

1. Lack of keratinized tissue in a patient with thin biotype, abrasion in 33, inexact filling on 34 and provisional crowns on 35 and 36.

2. The surgical bed is prepared. After stripping (split-thickness flap) the muscular fibres in the apical region are sutured to the periosteum.

3. Trimming, positioning, stabilisation and immobilisation of Geistlich Mucograft® with sutures 5.0.

4. The surgical site is protected with a periodontal dressing fixed in the interproximal spaces.

5. Clinical situation 10 days after surgery. Note the rapid granulation (healing) of the treated site.

6. Clinical situation 3 weeks after surgery. The treated site has re-epithelialised rapidly and the width of keratinized tissue is increased.

7. Follow-up 2 months post-operative. Note the gain of the gingival margin at the treated site.

8. Follow-up 6 months after surgery. Note the increase of keratinized tissue and its perfect integration to surrounding tissues.

9. Clinical situation 1 year post-operative. The obtained outcome remains stable.
**Widening of attached gingiva prior to implant placement**

Surgery by Dr. Ulrich Konter (Hamburg)

**Aim:** Widening of the attached gingiva using Geistlich Mucograft® for complex implant rehabilitation prior to augmentation and implant placement.

**Conclusion:** The use of Geistlich Mucograft® for widening of the attached gingiva shows a good increase of width around teeth and implants comparable with autologous grafts – with significantly reduced morbidity by avoiding the palate wound. The shrinkage of the xenogeneic collagen matrix is higher than that of a free gingival graft (FGG), so an overextension of the preparation and matrix is mandatory. The color match is good and much better than with a FGG.

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<td>Lower Jaw</td>
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<td>Pre-implant</td>
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**Material:** Geistlich Mucograft®

**Technique:** Split-thickness flap and open healing

1. Initial situation: partially edentulous lower jaw with inserting muscle fibres, ligaments and reduced width of attached gingiva prior to bone augmentation procedure.
2. Vestibuloplasty with split flap preparation and apically fixed flap. After removal of muscle, scar fibres and ligaments, Geistlich Mucograft® is fixed with single and cross-over sutures.
3. Migration of small blood vessels into the Geistlich Mucograft® collagen matrix 2 days after surgery.
5. Situation 2 weeks post-operative after suture removal.
6. Completely incorporated Geistlich Mucograft® collagen matrix 3 months post-operative. The width of attached gingiva has increased.
7. Follow-up picture 3 months post-operative, occlusal view. Insertion of muscular fibres is situated apically of the intended bone augmentation.
8. View on the inside of the elevated flap during augmentation procedure demonstrating the gain of thickness with Geistlich Mucograft®.
9. Uneventful healing 6 months after extensive bone augmentation.

Socket seal of posterior alveole in late implant placement

Surgery by Dr. Hadi Antoun (Paris)

**Aim:** Conservation of hard and soft tissue volume after teeth extraction for late implant placement without sinus floor augmentation.

**Conclusion:** Extraction with late implant placement is an extremely reliable procedure, which has been proven repeatedly in the international literature. The alveolar socket seal technique used in this clinical case, however, is relatively new. The time intervals between the healing of the alveolar socket and implant placement are the same as for the „tissue punch“ technique. The technique of this clinical case has the following advantages: ridge volume preservation, lack of a second operation site, less surgical time, simplification of the procedure, soft tissue volume preservation due to a socket sealing with Geistlich Mucograft®, and finally a sinus lift procedure is spared thanks to the hard-tissue preservation with Geistlich Bio-Oss®.

### Jaw Region Restorative Status Gingival Biotype

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**Material:** Geistlich Bio-Oss® (0.25 – 1.0 mm) small granules/Geistlich Mucograft® (15 x 20 mm)

**Technique:** Socket seal

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1. Examination of an unstable bridge between 25 and 27 revealed deep pockets as well as bleeding due to periodontal infection (terminal phase).
2. Extractions are performed atraumatically and without raising a flap. The alveolar sockets have been curetted with precision and prepared for receiving a biomaterial.
3. Occlusal clinical image: the alveolar sockets are filled and packed gently without excess of pressure.
4. Instead of using a tissue punch, alveolar sockets are sealed using Geistlich Mucograft®, which is fitted to the defect and held in place with cross-suturing (3.0 non-resorbable).
5. Healing after 1 week, just before suture removal. The gum shows a nice pink colour, indicating perfect tolerance of the biomaterial.
6. Healing after 2 weeks showing incomplete closure of the sockets but no exposed biomaterial. The collagen matrix effectively protected the site as the blood clot formed.
7. Healing after 4 months with soft tissue maturation and maintenance of the horizontal volume of the crest.
8. Maturation and maintenance of tissue volume around the integrated implants 2 months after implant placement (or 8 months after extraction).
9. Clinical image 1 year after prosthetic restoration. Note the quality of the soft tissue as well as the maintenance of the vestibular shaping.
Socket seal of anterior alveole in late implant placement

Surgery by Dr. Ronald E. Jung (Zurich)

**Aim:** Preservation of hard and soft tissue volume after extraction in the anterior region for late implant placement.

**Conclusion:** Volume preservation of hard and soft tissue after tooth extraction is important to prevent extensive guided bone regeneration procedures at implant placement. With this minimally invasive procedure, the volume of hard and soft tissue can be better preserved with Geistlich Bio-Oss® Collagen and Geistlich Mucograft®, respectively, compared to spontaneous healing.

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Material: Geistlich Bio-Oss® Collagen (100 mg)/Geistlich Mucograft® (20 x 30 mm)
Technique: Socket seal

1. Extraction of tooth 21 due to a trauma with concomitant external resorptions. Care was taken in preserving the alveolar bone.

2. Crestal view of the socket after tooth extraction. No flaps are raised around the affected area. A slight buccal bone defect was observed.

3. The socket is gently curetted for removal of granulation tissue. Subsequently, the wound margins were de-epithelialised with a diamond in a counter piece with water cooling.

4. Filling of the extraction socket with Geistlich Bio-Oss® Collagen to the level of the palatal bone.

5. After measuring the alveole, Geistlich Mucograft® is punched (8 mm diameter).

6. The Geistlich Mucograft® punch is placed on top of Geistlich Bio-Oss® Collagen to seal the filled alveole.

7. Suturing of the Geistlich Mucograft® with 6-0 single interrupted sutures.

8. Nice healing of the soft tissues 1 week after extraction.

9. Situation 7.5 months after extraction revealing nice soft tissue situation with a slight dip at the buccal aspect.

Treatment concept: Recession Coverage

Gingival recession occurs both in populations with high standards of oral hygiene\(^1\) and in populations with periodontal disease resulting from poor oral hygiene.\(^2\) Although a large variety of etiologic factors have been associated with gingival recession, its treatment is mainly motivated by aesthetic concerns and/or buccal cervical dentine hypersensitivity.\(^3,4\)

**Classification**

Several classifications of recession defects have been suggested in the literature based on the morphological properties,\(^5\) distance from the cemento-enamel junction to the soft tissue margin,\(^6\) etc. Currently, Miller’s Classification is probably the most widely used for describing tissue recession.\(^7\) This classification helps the clinician to assess whether a recession defect can be predictably treated.\(^7\)

**Motivation for recession coverage treatment**

- Aesthetics concerns\(^1,4\)
- Buccal cervical dentine hypersensitivity\(^3,4\)

**Miller Class I:** Recession does not extend to the mucogingival junction. No periodontal loss of bone or soft tissue in the interdental area (courtesy of Dr. Abundo\(^8\)).

**Miller Class II:** Recession extends to or beyond the mucogingival junction. No periodontal loss of bone or soft tissue in the interdental area (courtesy of Dr. Abundo\(^8\)).

**Miller Class III:** Recession extends to or beyond the mucogingival junction. Bone or soft tissue loss in the interdental area or malpositioning of the teeth (extrusion, vestibularization, rotation; courtesy of Dr. Abundo\(^8\)).

**Miller Class IV:** Recession extends to or beyond the mucogingival junction. Severe bone or soft tissue loss in the interdental area and/or severe malposition of the teeth (courtesy of Dr. Abundo\(^8\)).
Why are soft tissue graft alternatives needed?

Treatment Prospect

Based on Miller’s classification, treatment of Miller Class I and II type defects show high predictability and complete recession coverage can be achieved. In defects with Miller Class III, partial root coverage can be anticipated whereas in Miller Class IV type defects, the bone or soft tissue loss in the interdental area and/or malpositioning of teeth is so severe that root coverage cannot be anticipated. In addition, it is commonly accepted that recession treatments in the maxilla show higher predictability than in mandible.

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<th>Higher treatment predictability of success</th>
<th>Lower treatment predictability of success</th>
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<td>Type of recession defects</td>
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<td>Miller Class I and II</td>
<td>Miller Class III and IV</td>
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<td>Localization of recession defects</td>
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<td>Maxilla</td>
<td>Mandible</td>
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Proven Effectiveness

Geistlich Mucograft® in combination with a coronally advanced flap (CAF) presents a viable alternative to connective tissue graft (CTG) in recession coverage, without the morbidity of the soft tissue harvest. Also in combination with a coronally advanced modified tunnel, Geistlich Mucograft® may represent an alternative to CTG by reducing surgical time and patient morbidity.

Geistlich Mucograft® with coronally advanced flap yields

> mean recession coverage comparable to CTG
> gain of keratinized tissue comparable to CTG
> lower patient morbidity than CTG

5 Sullivan HC & Atkins JH. Periodontics. 1968 Aug;6(4):352-60 (Clinical study)
6 Liu WJ & Solt CW. J Periodontol. 1980 Sep;51(9):505-9 (Clinical study)
Single recession coverage with coronally advanced flap in thick biotype

Surgery by Dr. Daniele Cardaropoli (Turin)

**Aim:** Restoration of the gingiva around the dental enamel junction, while avoiding an autologous donor site.

**Conclusion:** The collagen matrix, Geistlich Mucograft®, may be used successfully for recession coverage in combination with CAF. The device shows good, uneventful wound healing and excellent color match, while avoiding harvest of autologous soft tissue grafts. Additionally, a gain in gingival thickness has been achieved with Geistlich Mucograft® at the end of the treatment.

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**Material:** Geistlich Mucograft®

**Technique:** Split-full-split thickness flap (coronally advanced) and submerged healing

1 Before preparation of the flap the exposed root portion is cleaned with a scraper and is wiped with EDTA (or similar).

2 After measuring the dimension of the recession defect using a periodontal probe, the incisions for raising the flap are cut.

3 A split-full-split thickness flap is elevated and coronally mobilised.

4 The area of the papillae is de-epithelialised to allow anchorage of the flap coronal to the cemento-enamel junction.

5 Geistlich Mucograft® is applied dry to the defect and is fixed with 4 single sutures.

6 The coronally advanced flap is sutured over Geistlich Mucograft®.

7 Nice, uneventful healing 15 days post-operatively at suture removal.

8 Soft tissue situation immediately after suture removal.

9 Complete root coverage 7 months after surgery. Note the excellent colour match.

Single recession coverage with coronally advanced flap in thin biotype

Surgery by Prof. Dr. Giovanni Zucchelli (Bologna)

**Aim:** Root coverage and increase in buccal soft tissue thickness.  

**Conclusion:** Aesthetic root coverage with CAF and Geistlich Mucograft® might be an alternative option to connective tissue graft and CAF. An increase of keratinized tissue and gingival thickness was observed during the healing of the treated site. In this case, 100% of root coverage and a good aesthetic outcome were achieved.

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Material: Geistlich Mucograft®  
Technique: Split-full-split thickness flap (coronally advanced) and submerged healing

1 Pre-operative lateral smile showing the recession defect of tooth 14.

2 Pre-operative image of recession defect (tooth 14).

3 After elevation of split-full-split flap the interdental papillae are de-epithelialised.

4 Geistlich Mucograft® is placed over the root and sutured to the papillae.

5 The flap is mobilised, coronally advanced and sutured completely covering the Geistlich Mucograft®.

6 Healing of the surgical site 2 weeks after surgery.

7 Surgical site 6 months after surgery.

8 Outcome 1 year after treatment.

9 Lateral smile 1 year after surgery showing the optimal aesthetic outcome.
Single recession coverage with coronally advanced flap in thin biotype

Surgery by Dr. Michael K. McGuire and Dr. E. Todd Scheyer (Houston)1,2

**Aim:** Root coverage combining Geistlich Mucograft® with coronally advanced flap (CAF) without the morbidity of soft tissue graft harvest.

**Conclusion:** Recession coverage with Geistlich Mucograft® and CAF provides an acceptable option to connective tissue graft and CAF. A notable creeping attachment of the gingiva is observed in this case with Geistlich Mucograft® during the healing of the surgical site and optimal outcomes after 6 months appear to have further improved at 1-year follow-up.

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**Material:** Geistlich Mucograft®

**Technique:** Split-thickness flap (coronally advanced) and submerged healing

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1 Pre-operative image showing the recession defect (tooth 13).

2 After elevation of a partial thickness flap, the interdental papillae are de-epithelialised.

3 Geistlich Mucograft® is placed over the defect and sutured to the papillae.

4 The flap is coronally advanced and sutured completely covering the matrix.

5 Healing of the surgical site 1 week after treatment.

6 Post-operative situation after 4 weeks.

7 Surgical site 3 months post-operative.

8 Optimal outcome 6 months post-operative. Note the natural appearance of the soft tissue achieved with Geistlich Mucograft®.

9 Outcome 1 year after treatment.

1 McGuire MK & Scheyer ET. J Periodontol. 2010 Aug;81(8):1108-17 (Clinical study)

2 McGuire MK & Scheyer ET. J Periodontol. 2016 Mar;87(3):221-7 (Clinical study)
Single recession coverage with modified flap design

Surgery by Dr. Peter Lindkvist (Copenhagen)

**Aim:** Restoration of the marginal gingiva around the dental enamel junction on tooth 11, avoiding an autologous donor site, and reducing scar formation with the modified incisions design.

**Conclusion:** The Geistlich Mucograft® matrix can be used for coverage of Miller Class I recessions in combination with the coronally advanced split-thickness flap. An incisions design with a distal releasing incision will allow a tension free rotation and minimizes the risk of scar formation.

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Material: Geistlich Mucograft®
Technique: Coronally advanced flap with modified incisions design

1. Before preparation of the split flap, the exposed root is polished and scaled with a curette.
2. The size of the needed Geistlich Mucograft® is measured, and the graft material is contoured. For an easy fixation of the matrix it is penetrated with the 7.0 suture.
3. A split-thickness flap with a distal releasing incision is raised. The graft material is placed dry and fixed with a single U-suture.
4. The distal area of the papilla is de-epithelialised and the flap is rotated. The flap is sutured with a 7.0 monofilament suture.
5. Nice uneventful healing 10 days post-operative at suture removal.
7. Soft tissue condition after 3 months.
8. Healing after 7 months, with the wanted restoration of the gingival line. Note the excellent colour and only limited scar formation.
9. Post-operative result after 9 months with excellent colour and texture match and even less signs of scar-formation.
Single recession coverage with laterally moved coronally advanced flap

Surgery by Dr. Hilde De Vree & Prof. Dr. Hugo De Bruyn (Gent)

**Aim:** Root coverage combining Geistlich Mucograft® with laterally moved, coronally advanced flap.  
**Conclusion:** The laterally moved, coronally advanced surgical technique was combined successfully with Geistlich Mucograft® to treat an isolated gingival recession. Gain in gingival thickness and keratinized tissue could be observed. A nice blending of color and thickness of the surgically treated area with respect to adjacent soft tissues was seen.

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**Material:** Geistlich Mucograft®  
**Technique:** Split-thickness flap (laterally moved, coronally advanced) and submerged healing

1. Pre-operative clinical view of recession defect (tooth 41).
2. The root surface is planed and a split-thickness flap prepared (as described by Zucchelli et al 2004).
3. After de-epithelialisation of the papillae, the trimmed Geistlich Mucograft® is placed on the defect.
4. Geistlich Mucograft® is stabilised with 4 single sutures on the surgical bed.
5. The flap is moved laterally, advanced coronally and sutured completely covering the Geistlich Mucograft®.
6. Uneventful healing after 14 days.
7. Soft tissue situation 3 months post-operative.
8. Occlusal view 3 months post-operative. Gain in gingival thickness can be observed.
9. Complete root coverage 6 months post-operative. Increased gingival height on tooth 41.

Jaw Region Restorative Status Gingival Biotype
Lower Jaw Anterior Tooth Thick

Material: Geistlich Mucograft®  
Technique: Split-thickness flap (laterally moved, coronally advanced) and submerged healing
Multiple recession coverage with flap without releasing incisions

Surgery by Dr. Christine Romagna (Auxerre)

**Aim:** Covering of multiple recessions with minimal invasive treatment.

**Conclusion:** Multiple recession coverage is achieved with a coronally advanced flap (split-full-split thickness) and Geistlich Mucograft®. The absence of releasing incisions allows fast healing of the soft tissue without scars. In addition, the use of Geistlich Mucograft® avoids harvest of autologous connective tissue graft. This minimally invasive treatment offers a pleasant aesthetic outcome.

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**Material:** Geistlich Mucograft®

**Technique:** Coronally advanced flap without releasing incisions and submerged healing

1 Pre-operative picture of the area intended to treat. Note the thin biotype.

2 Initial situation showing Miller Class I defects on region 13 (3 mm) and 14 (2 mm).

3 A split-full-split thickness flap without releasing incisions is elevated.

4 The anatomical papillae are de-epithelialised.

5 The collagen matrix Geistlich Mucograft® is placed under the flap.

6 Immediate post-operative situation after suture of the flap covering Geistlich Mucograft® completely.

7 Follow-up picture 2 weeks after surgery.

8 Nice healing of the site 1.5 months post-operative.

9 Pleasant aesthetic outcome 7 months after surgery.
Multiple recessions with coronally advanced tunneling

Surgery by Dr. Oliver Brendel (Sindelfingen)

**Aim:** Complete coverage of exposed root surface due to functional and aesthetic demands.

**Conclusion:** Given a correct indication and taking etiological and patient-related factors into consideration, Geistlich Mucograft® in combination with the tunnel technique can lead to reproducible and full recession coverage. It represents a good alternative to connective tissue grafting and obviates harvesting from the palate. Experience has shown that thickening of the tissue is somewhat lower than with connective tissue grafts, but the tissue appears more natural and shows outstanding color and texture matching with the neighboring tissue. The healing course is normal and free of complications, given the correct indication.

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**Material:** Geistlich Mucograft®

**Technique:** Tunnel technique (coronally advanced) and submerged healing

1. Multiple Miller Class I recession defects in the maxilla.
2. Intensive cleaning of the tooth crowns as well as curettage and smoothing of the tooth necks (e.g. with ultrasonic scaler and preparation diamond).
3. The mucosa pockets are prepared starting with sulcular incisions (envelope technique).
4. Connection of the envelopes with interdental undermining of the tissue.
5. Conservative mobilisation of the papillae. Consecutively, the exposed root surfaces are conditioned with EDTA 24%.
6. Analogous to the connective tissue graft, Geistlich Mucograft® is placed pulling through the tunnel.
7. Coronal positioning of the tunnel and fixation with the appropriate suture technique.
8. Two months after recession coverage, a natural appearance.
9. Clinical situation after 1 year: The papillae have readapted in a creeping effect. The recession coverage appears biologically stable.

Jaw Region Restorative Status Gingival Biotype
Upper Jaw Anterior Tooth Thin

Material: Geistlich Mucograft®
Technique: Tunnel technique (coronally advanced) and submerged healing
Multiple recessions with coronally advanced modified tunnel

Aim: Treatment of multiple recessions in the anterior region of the maxilla.

Conclusion: The recessions were covered successfully with Geistlich Mucograft®. The gingival margin is stable. The tissue blending is good.

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Material: Geistlich Mucograft®

Technique: Coronally advanced modified tunnel (CAMT) and submerged healing

1 View at baseline of multiple recession-type defects. The contact points are splinted with composite for suspended sutures.

2 Tunnel preparation with tunneling instruments. The full-thickness dissection is made from the sulcular area to beyond the mucogingival line.

3 The papillae are tunnelised.

4 Geistlich Mucograft® is placed with the help of sutures on the right side.

5 Geistlich Mucograft® being placed under the tunnel in the same manner on the left side.

6 Geistlich Mucograft® is placed slightly above the cemento-enamel junction.

7 Geistlich Mucograft® on the left side.

8 The tunnel and the matrix placed and fixed in the coronal position with separated sutures suspended around the contact point.

9 Clinical view at 6 months.

Benefits of Geistlich Mucograft®

- Collagen matrix specifically designed for soft tissue regeneration
- Ready to use
- Easy handling and application in dry state
- Unlimited availability and constant quality
- No harvest-site morbidity
- Reduced surgical chair time
- Early vascularization and good tissue integration
- Good wound healing also in open healing situations
- Good color and texture match
- Valuable alternative to soft tissue grafts for gain of keratinized tissue and root coverage

Higher patient satisfaction

4 McGuire MK & Scheyer ET. J Periodontol. 2010 Aug;81(8):1108-17 (Clinical study)
Geistlich Mucograft® / Geistlich Mucograft® Seal

The matrix consists of porcine collagen and is specifically designed for soft tissue regeneration. Geistlich Mucograft® / Geistlich Mucograft® Seal is built up of a compact structure that gives stability while allowing open healing, and a spongy structure that supports blood clot stabilisation and ingrowth of soft tissue cells.

**Geistlich Mucograft®**
Collagen matrix
Therapeutic areas: gain of keratinized tissue and recession coverage

- 15 mm × 20 mm
- 20 mm × 30 mm
- 30 mm × 40 mm

**Geistlich Mucograft® Seal**
Collagen matrix
Therapeutic area: extraction socket management

- 8 mm diameter
- 12 mm diameter
Technical Guidelines for Use of Geistlich Mucograft® / Geistlich Mucograft® Seal

Based on several, independent clinical publications, discussions with pilot surgeons, and the consensus of more than 20 Geistlich Mucograft® Round Tables® (2009–2013), the following technical guidelines should be considered when using Geistlich Mucograft®:

1. In general:

> Geistlich Mucograft® / Geistlich Mucograft® Seal is an alternative to autologous grafts intended to be used in closed and open healing situations to:
- close wounds of oral mucosa
- support wound healing and regeneration processes in case of oral mucosa defects and deficiencies. The concerned oral mucosa defects and deficiencies may be surgically created or result from traumatic injuries, pathological conditions, medical treatments and therapies, or history of personal lifestyle habits. Geistlich Mucograft® / Geistlich Mucograft® is indicated to be used in the surgical treatment of the following clinical conditions:
  1. defects and deficiencies of oral mucosa associated with:
     - presence of recessions
     - lack of keratinized tissue
     - scar tissue
  2. oral mucosa wounds associated with:
     - bone regeneration procedures
     - lack of soft tissue.
Patient selection criteria, patient compliance and surgical requirements, as with autologous soft tissue grafts, should be fulfilled.

> Patient selection and compliance are of crucial importance for optimal clinical outcome. Patient expectations should be considered.

> Geistlich Mucograft® / Geistlich Mucograft® Seal is ready to use without need of pre-hydration or washing treatments.

> Geistlich Mucograft® should be trimmed dry and precisely to the required size to avoid tension. For accurate trimming of Geistlich Mucograft®, the use of a template might be helpful.

> Geistlich Mucograft® / Geistlich Mucograft® Seal should be manipulated and applied in a dry state.

> Orientation of Geistlich Mucograft® / Geistlich Mucograft® Seal: The compact structure should face outwards and the spongy structure towards the bone and/or periosteum.

> No compression of Geistlich Mucograft® / Geistlich Mucograft® Seal: The collagen matrix should remain uncompressed before, during and after surgery.

> Immobilization of Geistlich Mucograft® / Geistlich Mucograft® Seal: After surgery the matrix should be immobile, since stabilization of the blood clot is important for wound healing.

> No tension around Geistlich Mucograft®. Any tension of the soft tissues around Geistlich Mucograft® should be avoided. If possible, wider than normal flaps are recommended.

> Post-surgical management: As with any regenerative site, caution must be exercised in post-operative care and during hygiene practices at or near the surgical site. For the first 4 weeks, no brushing or flossing at the gingival margin and no chewing of hard foods. For the first 6 months, do not probe or allow scaling and root planning of sites.

2. Gain of Keratinized Tissue

> The maximum width of the band of keratinized tissue that can be obtained is genetically predetermined.

> Pre-surgical situation: At the coronal margin and/or surrounding teeth or implant, a small band of keratinized tissue should be present that can provide the biological information to the regenerated soft tissue. With Geistlich Mucograft®, comparable results to autologous graft are obtained if a band of at least 1 mm keratinized tissue is left.

> Good access: A minimum vestibule depth should be available in posterior sites to allow surgery and tension-free healing of the treated site.

> Split-thickness flap: Geistlich Mucograft® should be applied on a periosteal bed since blood supply is important.

> Open healing (onlay technique): When preparing the surgical bed, part of the remaining keratinized band should be moved apically with the flap. The elevated flap should be sutured at its base if necessary.

> Geistlich Mucograft® should be sutured tension-free to the surrounding tissue and may be left exposed, without wound dressing. If suturing the apical part of Geistlich Mucograft® is required, sufficient vestibule depth should be available to allow tension free healing.

> After gain of keratinized tissue with Geistlich Mucograft®, a minimum waiting period of 3 months is recommended if reopening of the site is necessary for further treatment.

3. Recession Coverage

> In general, recession treatments of Miller Class I and II defects show much higher predictability and success rates than Miller Class III and IV defects.
The finest possible suture material comfortably used by the Geistlich Mucograft
Before applying Geistlich Mucograft
Use of Geistlich Mucograft

4. Socket Seal**

Use of Geistlich Mucograft’ Seal with Geistlich Bio-Oss® Collagen is recommended following atraumatic tooth extraction when the alveolar buccal walls are preserved. Definition of preserved extraction socket varies and may include minor bony defects from 0 to 50% of buccal bone wall.

Geistlich Mucograft’ Seal must be used with a socket fill material (e.g. Geistlich Bio-Oss® Collagen).

Before applying Geistlich Mucograft® Seal, adjacent soft tissue margins should be de-epithelialized. This allows soft tissue cells to migrate from the soft tissue border into the matrix.

Orientation of Geistlich Mucograft® Seal: The compact structure of the matrix should face outwards and the spongy structure towards the extraction socket. Geistlich Mucograft® Seal spongy structure is stripped for easier differentiation of the two sides.

Geistlich Mucograft® Seal should be sutured using non-resorbable sutures, not glued. The close adaptation of the device to tissue borders can be accomplished by single interrupted sutures, double interrupted sutures or cross sutures.

The finest possible suture material comfortably used by the surgeon should be selected: for single interrupted sutures, the 6.0 or 5.0 suture size is recommended; for cross-suturing, a 5.0 suture size is appropriate.

When suturing Geistlich Mucograft® Seal, assure a tension-free close adaptation of the device edges to the de-epithelialized marginal soft tissue borders of the extraction socket.

A provisional restoration, either removable or fixed, should not place pressure on the graft or cause tissue impingement.

The Geistlich Mucograft® Seal protocol may be followed with either thick or thin gingival biotypes.

Treatment with Geistlich Mucograft® Seal and Geistlich Bio-Oss® Collagen allows for different therapeutic options: from early implant placement (8–10 weeks after tooth extraction) to late implant placement or bridge restoration.

4 McGuire MK & Scheyer ET. J Periodontol. 2010 Aug;81(8):1108-17 (Clinical study)
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