

WHAT WILL IT INVOLVE?

This may be carried out for teeth which are extensively broken down and require more sound tooth structure above the gum line to allow for a restoration/crown to be placed. Crown lengthening is also used to treat gummy smiles or to increase the length of short teeth.

This procedure is carried out under local anaesthetic and you will be comfortable throughout the procedure. It will involve raising a gum flap. The bone and gum will then be re-shaped to the required amount. At the end of the procedure, the gums will be stitched back to the appropriate place. A periodontal bandage or dressing may be placed. You will need to come back 1-2 weeks later for the stitches to be removed and will be reviewed regularly thereafter. Your dentist will be informed on the best time to place your provisional and definitive restoration(s)/crown(s)/bridge(s) if appropriate.

EXAMPLES

Crown lengthening to correct gummy smiles



Before



After

Crown lengthening to allow for crowns on worn teeth



Before



After

BENEFITS:

- To expose more of the tooth structure to allow placement of a filling/crown/bridge
- To bring decay or restoration margins (edges) above the gum line so that the teeth can be restored
- To lengthen the teeth to improve smile aesthetics/appearance

RISKS:

- Pain - can be managed using over-the-counter painkillers and are usually required for 1 week
- Swelling and bruising may occur depending on the length and extent of the procedure
- An temporary increase in bleeding from the gums
- Sensitivity but this is short-lasting and can be managed with toothpastes designed to reduce sensitivity
- Due to the reshaping of the gum, there may be recession and the teeth may look longer and the spaces between them may be larger
- Bone removal and gum reshaping may be required for the adjacent teeth
- Transient or permanent tooth looseness

TIMINGS:

Dependent on the number of teeth involved

FEES:

May vary but £900 for 1-3 teeth if 90-120 minutes required

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