A revolutionary new technique is now available to combat what time and the ageing process had caused and previously was untreated.

This is known as Aesthetic Gum Surgery and utilizes Plastic Surgery principles to resculpture lost gum tissue.

The importance of Healthy Gum Tissue

Healthy gum tissue protects your teeth from disease and sensitivity and helps produce a great smile. When you experience loss of gum tissue around your teeth it can be the beginning of serious oral health problems.

Historically treatment was geared to maintenance of existing gum tissue following its loss, but now this loss can be predictably reversed, producing great and long lasting results.

Alloderm

Alloderm is donated human tissue which is aseptically processed to remove all cells resulting in an intact acellular matrix of natural biological components which promotes rapid revascularization. The graft is then ready for implantation to help the body begin its own tissue regenerative process. It exhibits a remarkable versatility to convert into functional tissues that provide structural support (e.g. gingiva and fascia).

Alloderm is widely used in Medicine for plastic and reconstructive surgery. Originally developed to treat burns patients it is used in general surgery, orthopaedic surgery and urogenital surgery. Since its introduction in 1994, there have been more than 750,000 Alloderm grafts placed with no incidence of disease transmission.

It can now be used in challenging hernia and abdominal surgeries, breast reconstruction, treatment and repair of burns and now can be clinically applied in Cosmetic gum grafting techniques.

How does Alloderm work

Alloderm repairs damaged tissue by providing a foundation for new tissue regeneration. The components preserved in Alloderm contain the information that will help your own tissue to grow into the graft after placement.

Soon after placement, blood flows from your tissue into the Alloderm. Next, your own cells move into the Alloderm and begin the process of tissue regeneration. This is the way your body replaces cells during its regular maintenance cycle.

As the healing progresses, more of your cells move into the Alloderm and transform it into tissue that looks and functions naturally.

Over time, Alloderm allows regrowth of your own healthy gum tissue.
**Before and After Case**

**Case 1: Treatment of a ‘losing’ Smile**

Below is an actual case where Alloderm was used to cover exposed roots. Note the return to natural tissue contours and the pleasing appearance.

Exposed root surfaces before grafting with Alloderm  
Root surfaces covered and protected following grafting with Alloderm

**Case 2: Treatment of Long standing Gum Recession**

Treatment of lower jaw with Alloderm to combat long-standing gum recession.

Before  
After

**What to expect after Surgery**

You will have some initial swelling and possibly some mild bruising. This is normal following any surgery. One should avoid pulling on the lip to look at the area of surgery or to persistently rub your tongue over the area.

This could cause disruption of the surgical site or movement of the graft and lead to increased swelling and delayed healing.

You should have cold liquids for your first three meals and then soft foods for one week and to also avoid chewing near the region for two weeks.

Brushing the area of surgery should be avoided for 7-10 days as brushing the site could damage the graft in the early healing phase. You should continue brushing in all other areas as normal. In many cases an antimicrobial mouth rinse will be prescribed to help to keep the area clean.

Healing times differ from person to person and also on the complexity of the procedure. Your body’s natural healing process will stimulate your cells to enter the graft and begin the regeneration and integration process shortly after surgery. Significant healing will occur in the first two weeks and complete maturation of the graft may take three to four months.

You may treat the area normally by three to six weeks.