

The Operation / Procedure

1. **Scaling / Root planning:** To remove plaque, calculus or stains from the tooth surfaces (Scaling) or root surfaces (Root Planning) by ultrasonic or hand instrument.
2. **Periodontal surgery:** A gingival flap is raised to expose the root of a tooth for root planning.

Indication and Intended Benefits and Expected Outcome

1. To prevent periodontal disease.
2. To eliminate periodontal pocket by removing plaque and calculus in the periodontal pocket and on the root surface of the tooth so that the periodontal tissues may re-attach onto the root surface.
3. To facilitate daily tooth brushing and interdental cleaning.

Preoperative Preparation

Patient should inform the dentist of any medical condition e.g. valvular heart disease, pacemaker, taking any anti-coagulants, etc.

Postoperative Instruction

1. Slight discomfort and **gum bleeding** for few days especially common with periodontal disease. Proper cleaning of teeth and oral hygiene will sooth the symptom and help return of periodontal health.
2. The swollen **gum may recede** upon healing (depending on severity of periodontal disease) making the root surfaces exposed and sensitive to hot / cold / sweet / sour food (desensitizing toothpaste may help relieving the discomfort), or widen interdental spaces (clean properly to prevent worsening of periodontal disease).

Risks and Complications

1. Common: bleeding, tooth sensitivity, or periodontal abscess.
2. Uncommon (<1% risk): sepsis or infective endocarditis.

Consequences if Untreated

Periodontal disease get worse, get infected and develop periodontal abscess.

Follow Up

See the doctor as scheduled.

- * If you have problems after our normal dental clinic hours, you may call our Out-Patient clinic (Tel. No.: 2711 5222) or go to A&E department of nearby hospital.
- * Patient of "**Loving Smiles Dental Service for Intellectual Disability**" please consult attending dentist directly or go to A&E department of nearby hospital.

Remarks

This is general information only and the list of complications is not exhaustive. Other unforeseen complications may occasionally occur. In special patient groups, the actual risk may be different. For further information please contact your doctor Evangel Hospital reserves the right to amend this leaflet without prior notice. We welcome suggestions or enquiries on the information provided in this leaflet. Please contact our Healthcare professionals so that we could follow up and make improvement.

References

Cleveland Clinic: "*Tooth Scaling and Root Planning*" (2022)
<https://my.clevelandclinic.org/health/treatments/23983-tooth-scaling-and-root-planing> (03-08-2023)