

Subgingival scaling with root planing and curettage: effects upon gingival inflammation: a comparative study

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In this study, a problem which to date has not been answered, was considered: 'Are the results obtained in the initial preparation of periodontal treatment (oral hygiene, scaling and root planing) as effective as those obtained with the same procedures, though supplemented by curettage? In other words, is curettage justified to eliminate gingival inflammation so as to accomplish retraction of the gingiva? In a joint clinical and histologic research, carried out in humans of both sexes, the authors attempted to establish some of the differences between the effects of curettage and root planing as procedures to accomplish remission of gingival inflammation. In 10 patients, 210 teeth were treated (103 curetted and 98 root planed). Sixty useful samples and 2132 histologic sections were obtained. Six different staining techniques were used to study the samples. Clinical and histological evaluations were made of the results obtained with both procedures. It appeared therefore that the histo