

## Ueno Center Soft Tissue Graft Warranty

If you are a good candidate, soft tissue grafting is a predictable and safe way to treat your gum recession. Gum recession happens for many reasons including genetics, poor tooth positioning, aggressive tooth brushing with abrasive toothpastes, orthodontic treatment, muscle pulls and trauma to name a few things. Gum grafting offers many benefits. There are 2 types of tissue in the mouth called “attached” and “mucosa.” Attached tissue is attached to the bone and the teeth and is protective against bacteria and trauma. You will see a demarcating line between the attached and mucosal tissue. Mucosa is not attached to the bone or teeth and can be easily pulled away from the teeth. This can cause more plaque, food impaction and greater amounts of inflammation. For those going through orthodontics, attached tissue is needed to predictably move your teeth and thus grafting is often times recommended in our orthodontic patients (those going through Invisalign or braces).

When you have gum recession, this also means that you are losing the underlying bone around the tooth. Gum grafting can stabilize the soft tissue and hopefully prevent further recession. If your jaw bone is healthy, it will also cover the exposed root which may decrease sensitivity and the chance of you getting a cavity on your root if full root coverage is achieved.

There are many different ways your Ueno Center doctor can perform your gum graft, and they will explain which technique they will be using. Also, they may give you the option of using your own tissue or a donor tissue. Donor tissues are a nice option for those getting multiple teeth grafted in one visit and for those that want to reduce post-operative discomfort. It is not indicated in all cases and your doctor will make that decision. The success rate of donor tissues is comparable to that of your own tissue.

Soft tissue grafting surgery is over 95% predictable for those with healthy bone and can last for many years (most grafts have a 95% success rate at up to 15 years). Our most common complications are muscle pulls in the mouth and infection. Your Ueno Center doctor will put you on antibiotics for your surgery to reduce the chance of an infection and inform you of your risks.

The amount of root coverage that we expect to achieve is directly related to the amount of bone that you have available as the bone is both the blood supply and mechanical support to the grafts. If you have all of your bone (zero bone loss or periodontal disease), we can expect to get up to 100% root coverage. If you have bone loss due to periodontal disease, or the tooth is outside of the bony housing (tooth is positioned too far forward), we can expect only partial root coverage from the procedure. Your Ueno Center doctor will inform you if you are a good candidate for gum grafting and what outcome you can expect from treatment. Not all people are candidates for gum grafting and not all people can expect full root coverage.

Also, like in all oral surgery, if you are a smoker, diabetic, or are immunocompromised, we can expect a higher complication rate. Please discuss your risks with your doctor.

The Ueno Center will fully warranty your gum graft for 3 years after surgery if the following parameters are met:

- You get your recommended number of professional cleanings a year at your restorative dentist's office or the Ueno Center (most people are on 2-4 times a year cleaning schedules)
- You follow the post-op instructions and took your medications as indicated
- You show up to all of your post-op appointments at the Ueno Center

After the first year, we can sometimes see increased root coverage called "creeping attachment" and thus we will monitor some patients for over a year before deciding the future treatment. There have been cases where the patient did not get full root coverage initially, but the gums dramatically improved over the 1<sup>st</sup> year of healing without any additional intervention.

We thank you for the opportunity to work with you and help you regenerate your lost gum tissue and we look forward to partnering with you in your complete health.

I understand the conditions of the Ueno Center soft tissue graft warranty to its fullest extent and my signature below is my acknowledgement to the dental implant warranty agreement.

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Signature of patient

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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Signature of Ueno Center treating doctor

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Date