

With Curette or With Scalpel, That is the Question?

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Despite the widespread use of dental implants in today's clinical practice, the value of treatments aimed at preserving natural teeth is becoming increasingly paramount. Clinicians face a daily chairside dilemma when encountering periodontal patients: should they first apply a non-surgical approach with a 'curette', or pick up a 'scalpel' for an active surgical intervention? To address this practical concern, this lecture will comprehensively cover everything from practical tips for non-surgical treatments to the essential periodontal surgical techniques highly required in general practice.

The 'Scalpel' section focuses on three core surgical procedures that are highly applicable and fully manageable by general practitioners in everyday clinical settings. These three techniques include Gingivectomy for periodontal pocket reduction, Crown Lengthening Procedure (CLP) for securing adequate restorative space and aesthetic improvement, and Open Flap Curettage (or the distal wedge procedure) for the treatment of periodontal disease.

The 'Curette' section delves into the essence of immediately applicable non-surgical periodontal treatments. It provides practical tips on maximizing the efficiency of non-surgical approaches—which are just as crucial as surgical interventions—and how to stabilize and maintain the periodontium long-term using these methods. By clearly defining the limitations and possibilities of non-surgical treatments, this lecture aims to provide a reliable guide that empowers clinicians to approach their treatments with confidence.

Ultimately, by bridging the perspectives of both academia and general practice, this lecture seeks to provide periodontal solutions that satisfy both the clinician and the patient, regardless of whether the 'scalpel' or the 'curette' is chosen first.

Profile

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