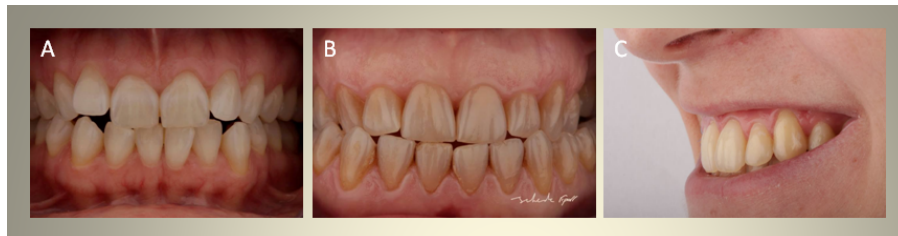


Signs of periodontal disease

This report aims to show what healthy gums and diseased gums look like, based on certain characteristic signs. This could help to self-assess the condition of your gums.

As shown in the photos below, we basically distinguish between two types of gum: thinner (A) and thicker (B). In type A, we can sometimes see the blood vessels through the gums. In the case of thicker gums, as in photo B, the surface is dotted, like orange peel.

The larger the teeth are in relation to the gums, the thinner the gums, and the more likely they are to be lost (gingival recession), as in photo C.



In the next slide, the gums are starting to become affected by the disease, and we can see how they improve with treatment. In case A, the gums are a little thicker, and since they are swollen, they increase in size, such as between the lower teeth (arrow). In case B, the gums are thinner and swollen in some areas (white arrow), but where they were thinnest, on the lower teeth (red arrow), they are lost.



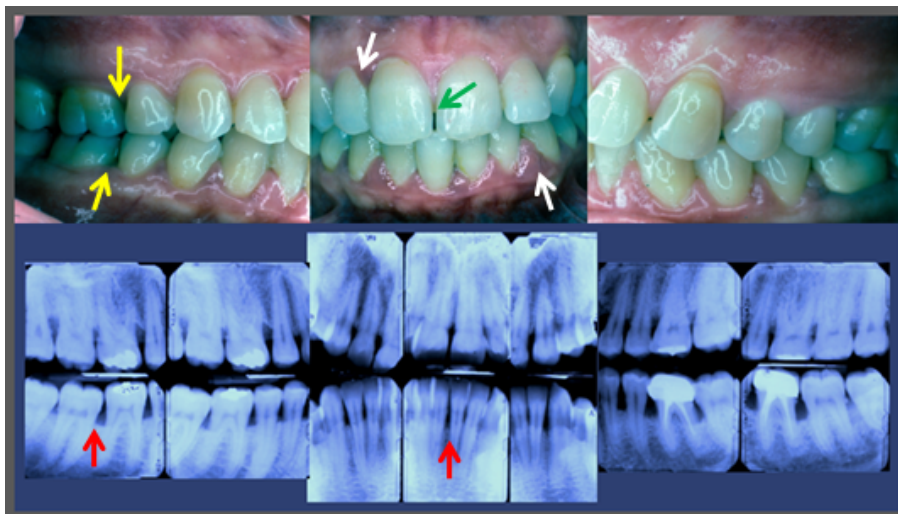
The following photos show different types of gums. In A, B and C, the gums are thinner and are being lost (red arrows). Case D shows thicker, healthy gums. In the remaining cases (E, F, G, H and I) we see thicker gums that have increased in size because they are inflamed (arrows).



In cases A and B below, we can see the evolution of the diseased gums (following the blue arrows). Thick gums that have increased in size are lost between the teeth over time, where they appear as dark hollows. In general, the appearance of gaps where there previously were none is a sign of disease.



In the following case, we see several signs of disease: 1. an increase in gum size between the teeth (white arrows); 2. Bleeding gums after brushing the teeth or when pressed during examination; 3. The appearance of gaps between the teeth (yellow arrows). This gum loss corresponds to the loss of bone that supports the teeth (red arrows). 4. Sudden separation of the top middle teeth is another sign (green arrow).



It is very important to note that in some cases the disease may go unnoticed due to the absence of any signs, while it could evolve even faster. This happens, for example, when the patient smokes a lot, because the gums become more compact, with a more pronounced orange peel-like appearance, but without any obvious inflammation. These may be the worst situations. If bruxism is also involved, the prognosis can be much worse. The following photos show gums of this type.

