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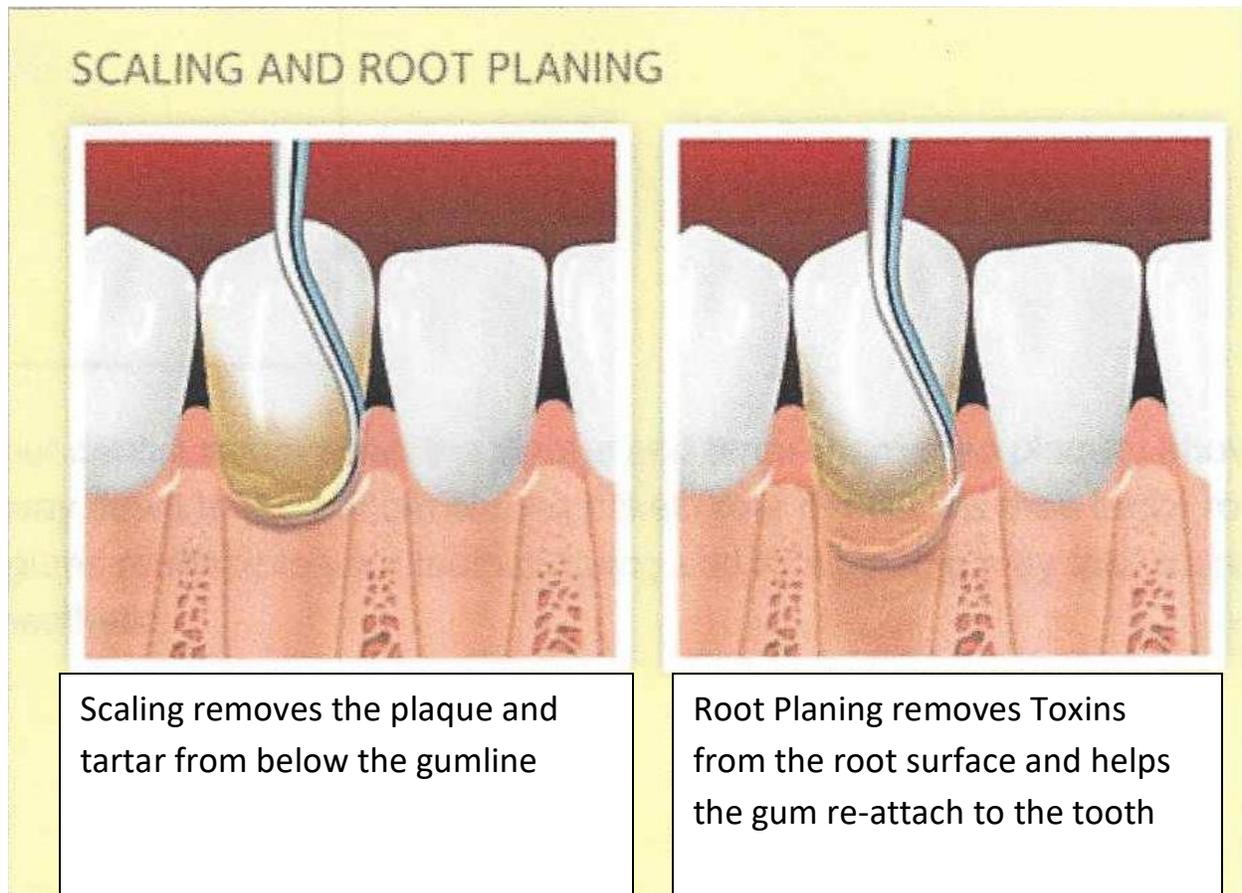
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Periodontal Scaling and Root Planing



Periodontal Scaling and Root Planing is a therapeutic procedure for the non-surgical treatment of early Periodontal Disease (gum disease).

Gum disease is caused by a sticky film of bacteria called plaque. Plaque is ALWAYS forming on your teeth. When this plaque is not removed thoroughly on a daily basis, your body will trigger your defense mechanism and cause Inflammation (swelling). Your body will always sacrifice the gums, underlying supporting jaw bone and tooth rather than allow the toxic bacteria (which are specific to the mouth) to enter the bloodstream and thereby attack and affect your vital body organ systems.

This is the key to the Oral – Systemic Link where toxic oral bacteria enter the bloodstream and create significant and permanent damage.

Periodontal Pockets are created by the breakdown that occurs in your mouth from this infection. We measure these pocket depths using a Periodontal Probe which has millimeter markings and can help us determine the extent of your disease. The Normal / Ideal depth numbers would be 1mm, 2mm or 3mm deep. For patients who are the most meticulous maintainers who brush a minimum of 2 minutes, their toothbrush (manual or electric) will typically ONLY clean 2 millimeters into the gumline pocket and floss may clean 1 millimeter.

If your pocket depths are 4mm, 5mm, or 6mm, they may respond favorably to the Periodontal Scaling and Root Planing and with your diligent good home care, these pocket depths can decrease to within the Normal / Ideal range. Your GOAL is to have Oral Hygiene Improvement and NO gumline bleeding.

Plaque that remains for a period of time will lead to hard deposits called Calculus (tartar) which will get trapped within these pockets and cannot be removed with your home tooth brushing, but must be professionally removed by our Hygienist.

Depending on the severity of your problem, our Hygienist may also apply an Anti-Microbial solution below the gumline to allow for more rapid healing and firming up of the gum tissue. We may also recommend ways to improve your homecare with Specialized Home Rinses, Electric Toothbrush and/ or Interdental Stimulators (Stimulents or Rotapoints).

We may also recommend PerioProtect®, a non-surgical home therapy which has FDA approval and has shown dramatic improvement in patients who have moderate Periodontal Disease. We are one of the premier dental offices in the country to provide this service to our patients.

Periodontal Scaling and Root Planing is most beneficial in cases where the gum disease is at the early stages and has not caused significant bone loss and recession.

Post-Operative Care after Periodontal Scaling and Root Planing:

- 1) You may have slight discomfort for several days – take: Aspirin, Advil, Tylenol or Aleve
- 2) Your gums may feel swollen and tender – continue with excellent homecare: brush twice per day, floss, interdental stimulator (Stimulent or Rotapoint) daily

In cases where the bone loss is significant, we may recommend the treatments performed by a Periodontist (Dental Specialist).