

THE ARCHITECTURE OF YOUR SMILE

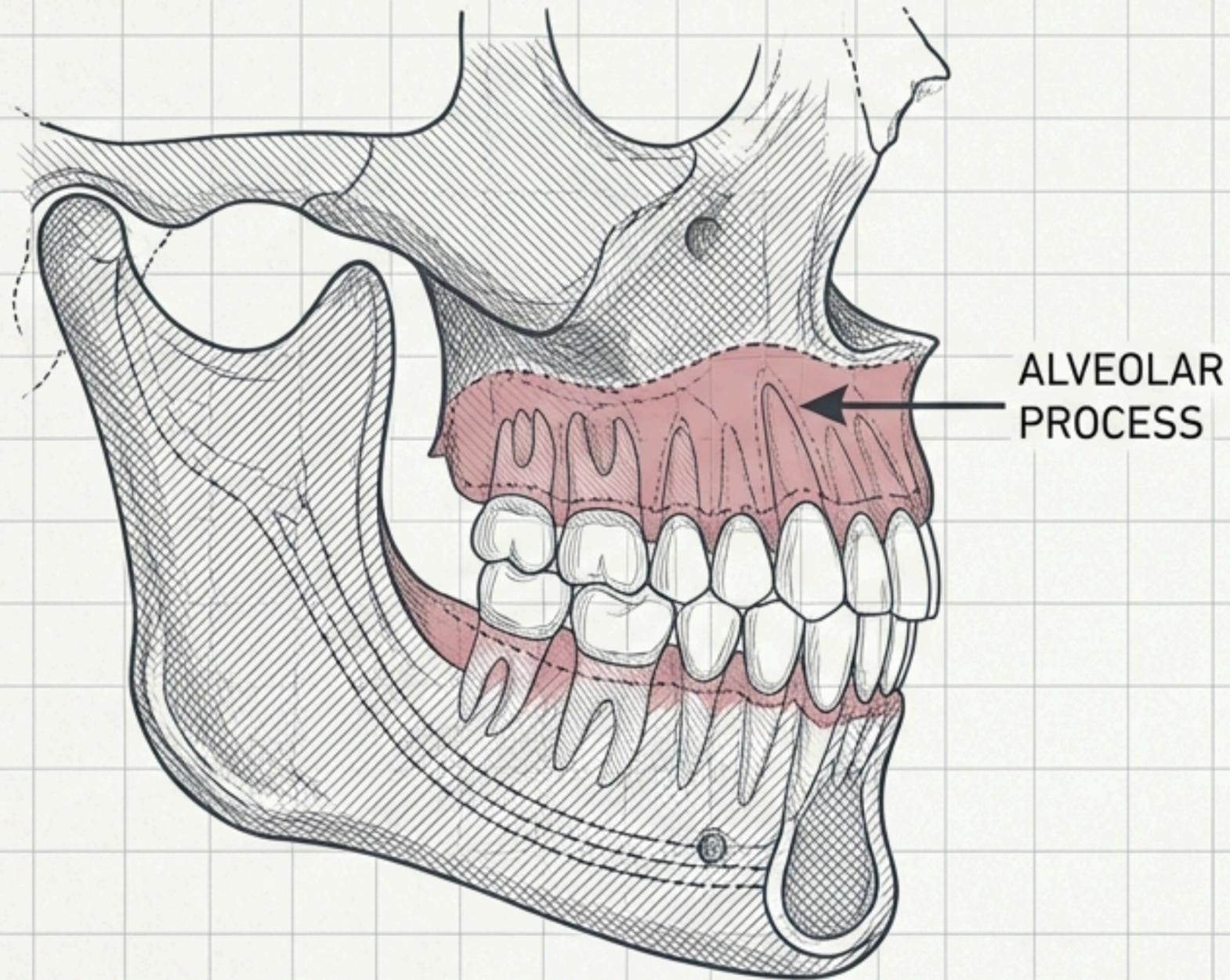
A Periodontal Perspective on Oral Engineering

Dr. Christa Blignaut

BChD, MChD (Perio & Oral Med), Implant Diploma

Periodontist & Oral Medicine Specialist

THE FOUNDATION: ALVEOLAR BONE



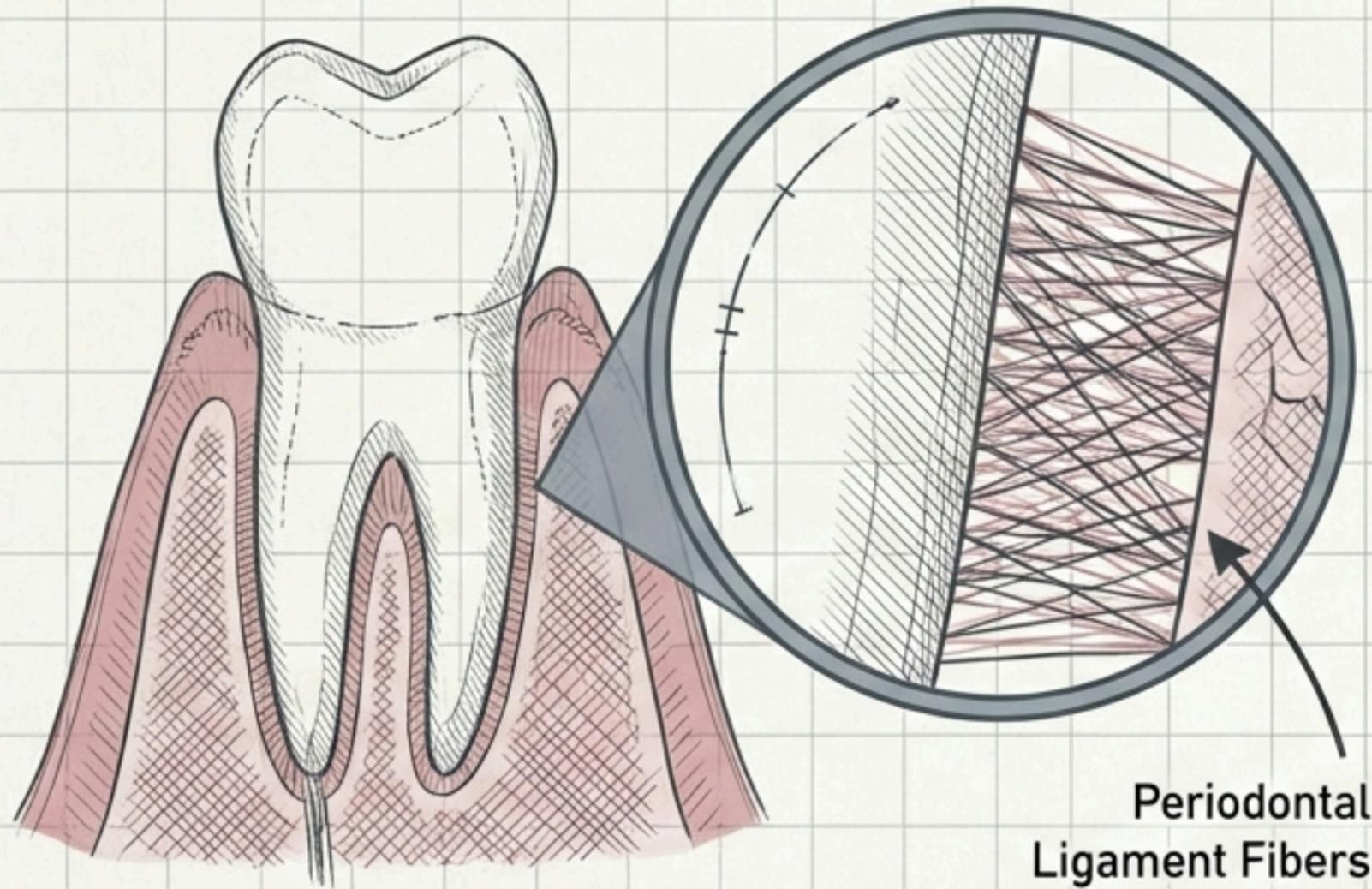
■ *Core Message: In architecture, the integrity of the building relies entirely on the foundation.*

■ **LOAD-BEARING ANCHOR**
This specialized bone forms the sockets that lock teeth in position to withstand mechanical stress.

■ **DYNAMIC STRUCTURE**
Unlike static concrete, this foundation is alive. It remodels to strengthen under pressure but resorbs (shrinks) when periodontal disease takes hold.

■ **THE SILENT RISK**
Bone loss is often painless in early stages. Without this support, the 'building' (tooth) shifts, loosens, and destabilizes.

THE SUSPENSION SYSTEM: PERIODONTAL LIGAMENT

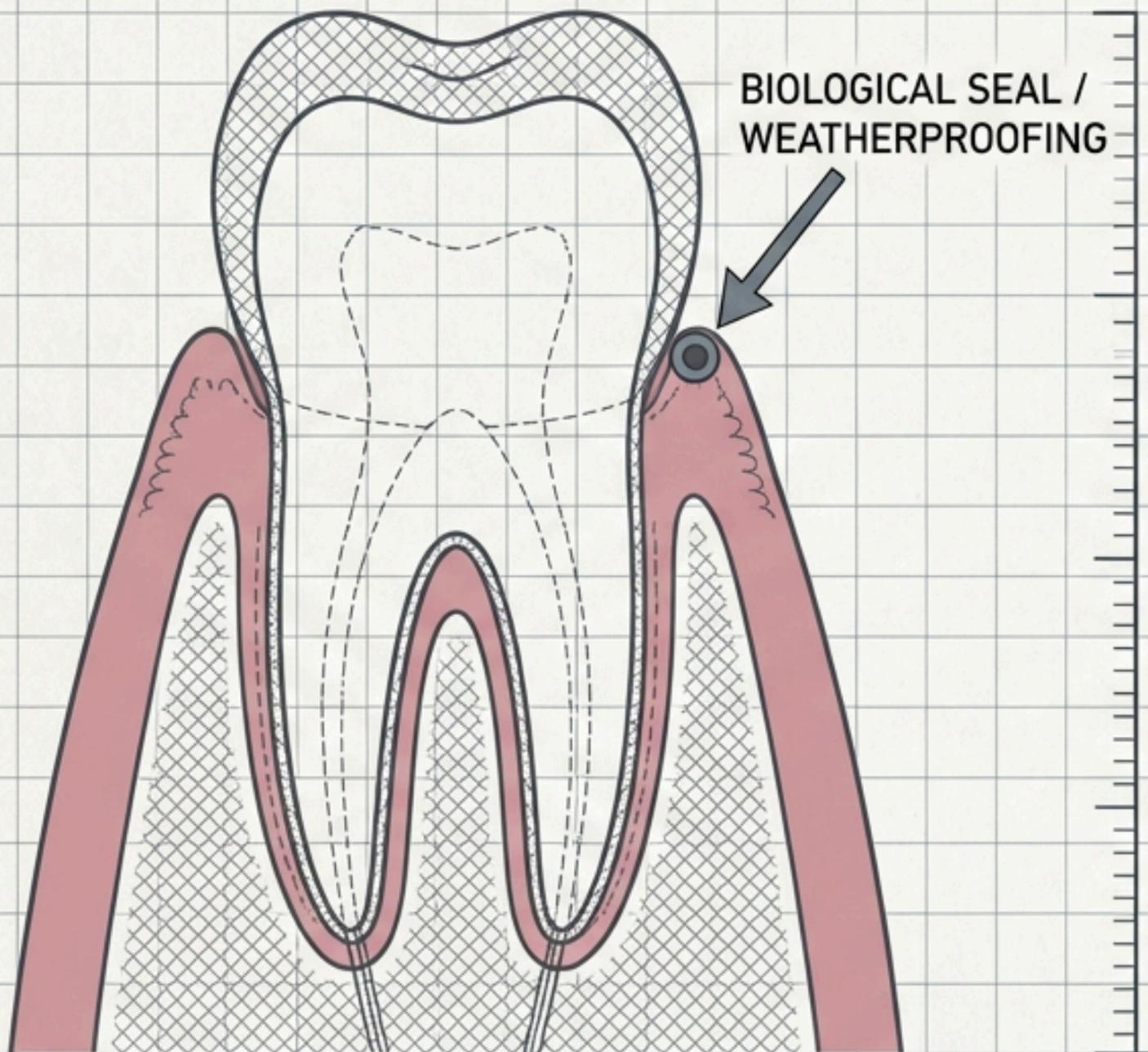


Core Message:

Teeth are not fused to the bone; they are suspended by a microscopic shock absorption system.

- **SHOCK ABSORPTION**
Thousands of fibers distribute the massive force of every bite and chew, preventing fracture or overload.
- **SENSORY PRECISION**
This system is so sensitive it can detect pressure differences as small as a grain of sand.
- **ELASTICITY**
The ligament allows for micro-movement, protecting the jawbone from trauma. When inflammation strikes, this suspension system fails, leading to mobility.

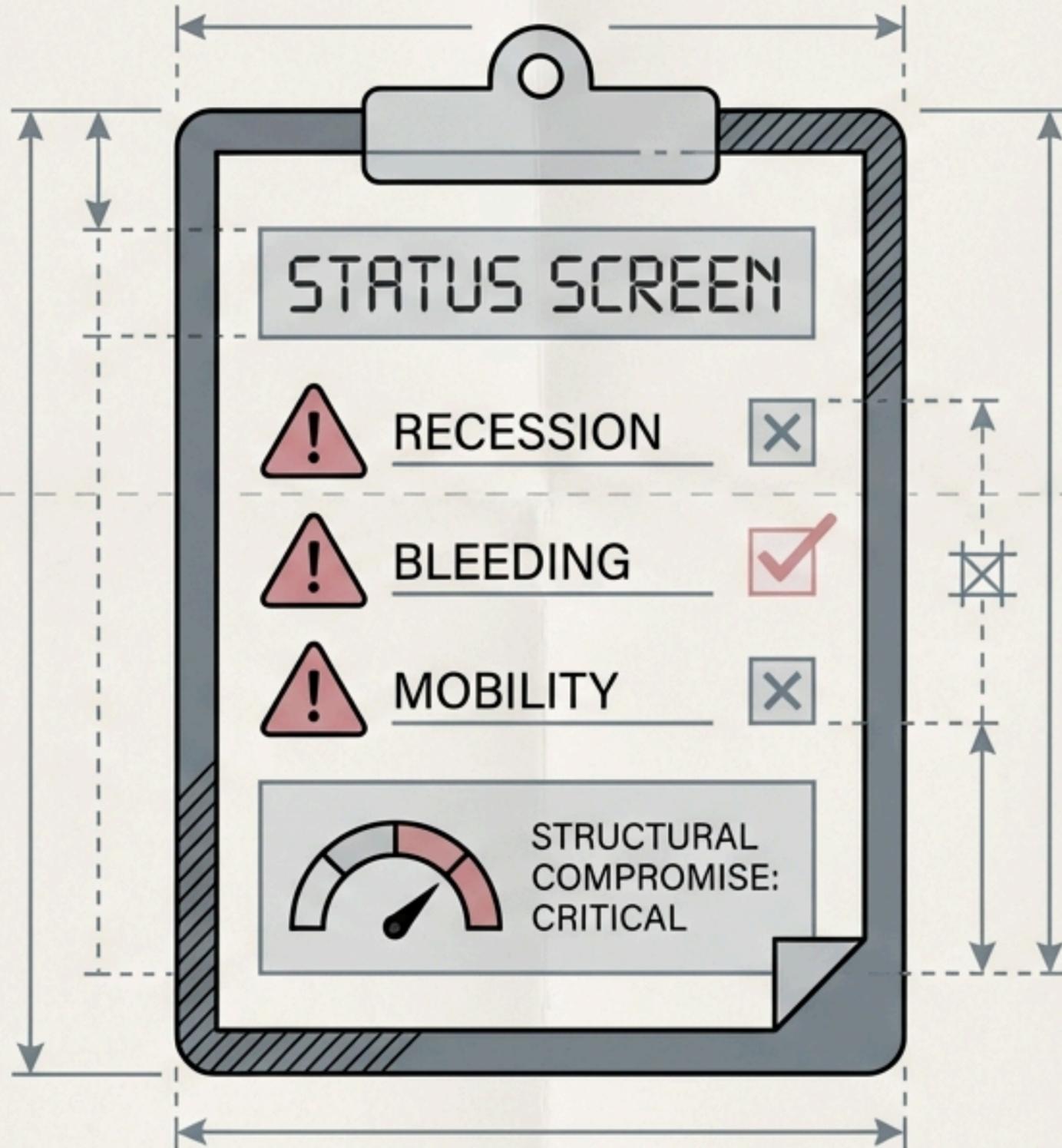
THE PROTECTIVE FACADE: GINGIVA



The gums are a biological seal, protecting the foundation from a hostile environment.

- **THE BARRIER**
Healthy gums form a tight collar around the tooth to block bacteria from migrating into the bone.
- **THE DANGER**
When the seal is breached by inflammation (Gingivitis), pockets form, allowing bacteria to descend into the foundation.
- **CRITICAL DISTINCTION**
Gingivitis is reversible; Periodontitis (bone loss) is not fully reversible. The 'facade' must be maintained to save the structure.

STRUCTURAL SIGNALS & MAINTENANCE



Core Message

Ignoring 'minor' structural signals allows for silent, catastrophic deterioration.

• System Alerts

Bleeding gums, recession, and bad breath are not cosmetic inconveniences—they are structural warnings.

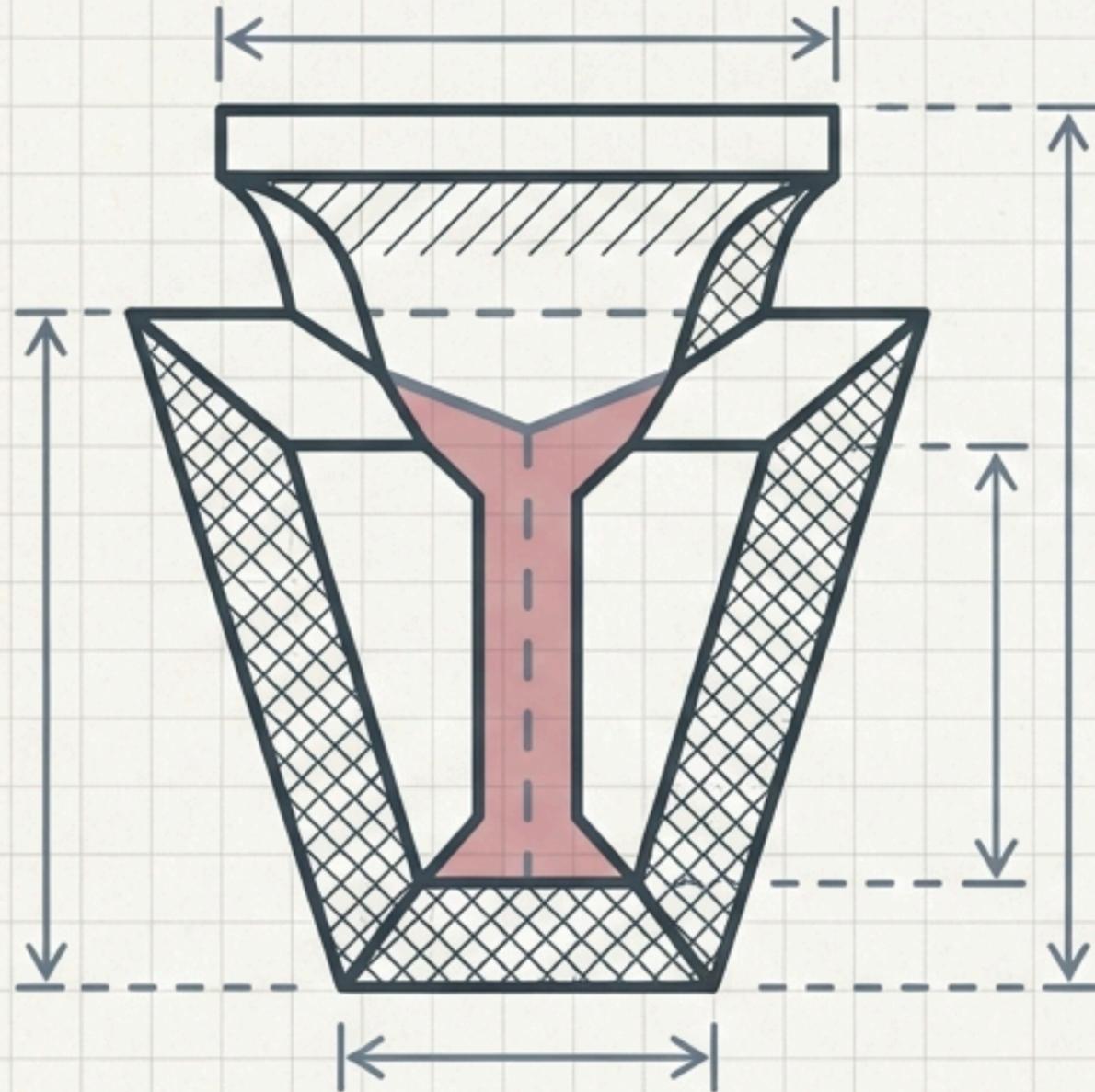
• Silent Erosion

Because bone loss is painless, the foundation can erode significantly before the patient notices loose teeth.

• The Strategy

Early intervention prevents the need for extensive reconstruction. Maintenance prevents collapse.

PRESERVING YOUR FOUNDATION



When the foundation is strong,
everything built upon it can flourish.

**Schedule your structural
assessment today.**

Practice: Mendelssohn MED & Suites, Floor 1, Suite 3
431 Mendelssohn St, Waterkloof Glen, Pretoria

Web: www.pretoriaperiodontist.com

Email: blignaut@pretoriaperiodontist.com

Phone/WhatsApp: 068 732 3413