

Periodontal Regeneration – Intrabony Defects: A Systematic Review From the AAP Regeneration Workshop

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Background: Previous systematic reviews of periodontal regeneration with bone replacement grafts and guided tissue regeneration (GTR) were defined as state of the art for clinical periodontal regeneration as of 2002.

Methods: The purpose of this systematic review is to update those consensus reports by reviewing periodontal regeneration approaches developed for the correction of intrabony defects with the focus on patient-, tooth-, and site-centered factors, surgical approaches, surgical determinants, and biologics. This review adheres to the PRISMA (Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses) guidelines for systematic reviews.

A computerized search of the PubMed and Cochrane databases was performed to evaluate the clinically available regenerative approaches for intrabony defects. The search included screening of original reports, review articles, and reference lists of retrieved articles and hand searches of selected journals.

All searches were focused on clinically available regenerative approaches with histologic evidence of periodontal regeneration in humans published in English. For topics in which the literature is lacking, non-randomized observational and experimental animal model studies were used.

Therapeutic endpoints examined included changes in clinical attachment level, changes in bone level/fill, and probing depth. For purposes of analysis, change in bone fill was used as the primary outcome measure, except in cases in which this information was not available. The SORT (Strength of Recommendation Taxonomy) grading scale was used in evaluating the body of knowledge.

Results: 1) Fifty-eight studies provided data on patient, tooth, and surgical-site considerations in the treatment of intrabony defects. 2) Forty-five controlled studies provided outcome analysis on the use of biologics for the treatment of intrabony defects.

Conclusions: 1) Biologics (enamel matrix derivative and recombinant human platelet-derived growth factor-BB plus β -tricalcium phosphate) are generally comparable with demineralized freeze-dried bone allograft and GTR and superior to open flap debridement procedures in improving clinical parameters in the treatment of intrabony defects. 2) Histologic evidence of regeneration has been demonstrated with laser therapy; however, data are limited on clinical predictability and effectiveness. 3) Clinical outcomes appear most appreciably influenced by patient behaviors and surgical approach rather than by tooth and defect characteristics. 4) Long-term studies indicate that improvements in clinical parameters are maintainable up to 10 years, even in severely compromised teeth, consistent with a favorable/good long-term prognosis. *J Periodontol* 2015;86(Suppl.):S77-S104.

KEY WORDS

Controlled clinical trial; patient outcome assessment; periodontal diseases; tissue engineering; reviews.

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Periodontitis is commonly characterized by the formation of intrabony defects. Multiple surgical approaches for treating intrabony defects have shown effectiveness in improving clinical and radiographic parameters, such as clinical attachment level (CAL) and defect depth. Moreover, histologic evidence demonstrates the potential to achieve regeneration of the periodontal attachment apparatus—including new bone, cementum, and periodontal ligament (PDL)—using different therapeutic approaches.¹⁻¹⁴ However, limitations in the predictability and effectiveness of regenerative therapy, including bone replacement grafts and guided tissue regeneration (GTR), are well documented in the literature.¹⁵⁻²⁴ A combination of factors related to the patient, defect morphology, and surgical procedure appear to influence the overall predictability and effectiveness of periodontal regenerative approaches.²⁵ Although some of these factors, such as defect morphology, provide insight into the selection and treatment strategy for optimizing regenerative outcome, a clinical need remains for more accurate predictive models and more robust reconstructive and regenerative strategies.

This systematic review examines available published evidence to address focused questions related to the predictability and effectiveness of regenerative therapies in the treatment of intrabony defects. Case-based scenarios are used to develop evidence-based recommendations for the use of regenerative therapy in the management of periodontal intrabony defects in daily clinical practice. This review is a continuing effort to develop treatment options for optimizing periodontal regenerative strategies.

SEARCH PROTOCOL

PRISMA Compliance

This review adheres to the 2009 PRISMA (Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses) guidelines for systematic reviews.²⁶

Focused Questions

Focused questions included the following. 1) What is the evidence for periodontal regeneration in intrabony defects related to the following: a) patient-centered behavioral and systemic considerations; b) what is achievable and maintainable; c) the influence of tooth mobility; d) surgical considerations (flap design); e) surgical considerations (defect morphology, including width, depth, and containment); and f) surgical complications, factors to increase stability, and stability relapse management? 2) What is the evidence for the following regenerative procedures: a) updated classic regenerative approach (demineralized freeze-dried bone allograft [DFDBA]; GTR, and GTR combined

with graft materials); b) laser-assisted regeneration (LAR)^{||}; c) enamel matrix derivative[¶] (EMD) (EMD alone, EMD versus GTR, and EMD combination); and d) recombinant human platelet-derived growth factor BB[#] (rhPDGF-BB)? 3) What is the optimal timing of regenerative treatment of intrabony defects in relation to orthodontic and endodontic therapy?

Data Sources and Search Strategies

The screening process is outlined in Figure 1, and search strategies, search words, time frame of the search, and total number of references identified from PubMed and Cochrane databases are described in Table 1. The search strategy attempted to directly identify the following: 1) new reports of bone graft and GTR in clinical periodontal regeneration since October 2002; 2) the role of biologics and laser; 3) patient, tooth, and surgical considerations for improved regeneration outcome; 4) the relationship of regenerative therapy outcomes with endodontic and orthodontic therapy; and 5) short- and long-term (>5 years) regenerative outcomes. For purposes of analysis, change in bone fill was used as the primary outcome measure, except in cases in which this information was not available.

These searches were supplemented by screening review articles and reference lists of retrieved articles and preprint online publications of *Journal of Periodontology*, *Journal of Clinical Periodontology*, and *Journal of Periodontal Research*. In situations in which the same findings were reported in two separate journals, only the most detailed reports were included, and the secondary report was rejected. All abstracts were read by two authors (RTK and SN), and disagreements were resolved by consensus after discussion with the third author (MAR).

Inclusion criteria. All searches were limited to regenerative approaches with histologic “proof of principle” that the periodontal apparatus can be regenerated in human studies. Evidence from early studies and approaches have been summarized in several systematic reviews.^{15,16} New regenerative approaches discussed in this review have provided similar histologic proof of principle.^{4,27-32} The search parameters were limited to studies published in English using autogenous bone, DFDBA, GTR, EMD, rhPDGF-BB, and LAR with the neodymium:yttrium-aluminum-garnet (Nd:YAG) laser. Studies included randomized clinical trials (RCTs), cohort studies, and selected case controlled studies. For topics in which the literature is lacking, non-randomized

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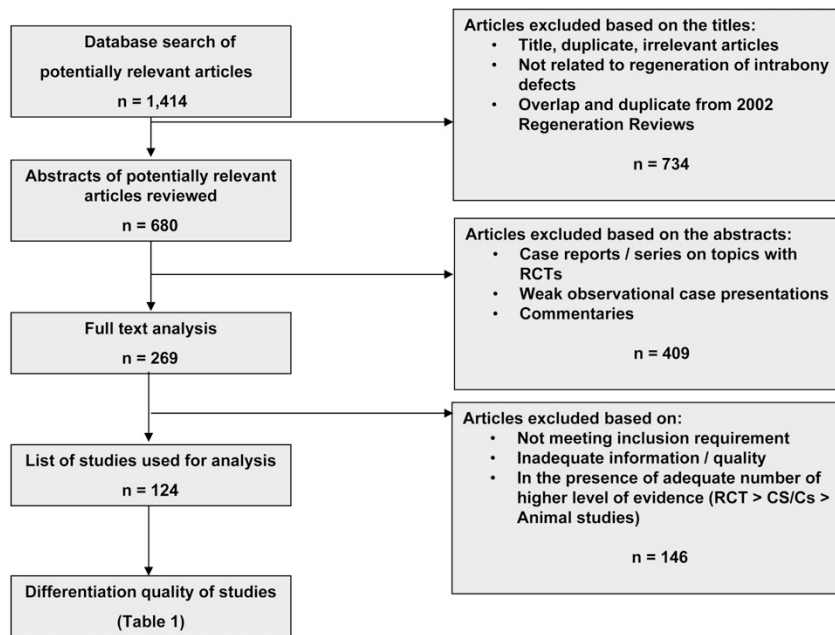


Figure 1.

Procedural flowchart of the screening process. CS = case series; C = case report.

observational and experimental animal model studies were used.

Exclusion criteria. Exclusion criteria included non-randomized (e.g., case series and case reports) and experimental animal model studies in situations in which there is an inadequate number of RCTs. In certain new areas of regeneration, case series were used to supplement and support findings from RCTs.

Although there are extensive studies on various bone replacement grafts and platelet-rich plasma (PRP) preparations, such healing occurs by the formation of long junctional epithelium. Furthermore, although clinical stability was observed with grafting strategies, it was not in the scope of this review because of the lack of human histologic evidence of periodontal regeneration as reported in a previous systematic review.¹⁵

Translation for evidence-based recommendations. The grading system and recommendations were made based on the SORT (Strength of Recommendation Taxonomy) grading system. The quality and consistency of evidence were used to define the strength of recommendation. The quality rating score system is a three-tier grade that deemphasizes observational studies, with RCTs receiving highest score: A) consistent good-quality patient-oriented evidence; B) inconsistent or limited-quality patient-oriented evidence; and C) consensus, disease-oriented

evidence, usual practice, expert opinion, or case series.³³

VARIABLES INFLUENCING PERIODONTAL REGENERATION

Patient-Centered Considerations

Patient-centered variables are modifiable factors that have the potential to significantly influence regenerative outcomes even under the most ideal surgical conditions. Control of these variables should be achieved before initiating regenerative procedures.

Diabetes mellitus. Studies examining the physiologic effect of diabetes mellitus on regenerative outcomes are lacking, given the ethical considerations of conducting prospective clinical trials when comparing regenerative outcomes in uncontrolled patients with diabetes with individuals with well-controlled or

no diabetes. Even with the lack of direct evidence in humans, recent animal studies confirm the detrimental effects on periodontal tissues and the poor regenerative capacity of animals with diabetes compared with animals without it.³⁴⁻³⁶ Moreover, the use of biomimetic agents, such as EMD, did not improve the compromised healing response of animals with diabetes³⁵ (SORT level C).

Smoking. Smoking is a modifiable factor that is clearly associated with compromised regenerative outcomes.^{10-12,37} The detrimental effects on oral tissues appear multifactorial in nature, affecting numerous aspects of the inflammatory and immune responses.¹³ Recent studies comparing regenerative outcomes and complication rates in smokers with non-smokers continue to confirm that smokers have less reduction in probing depth (PD),^{11,12} smaller gains in CAL,^{11,12,14,38,39} increases in recession (REC),⁴⁰ significantly less bone fill/bone gain,^{10,41} and a higher incidence of membrane exposure¹⁰ and are less likely to achieve $\geq 65\%$ defect resolution⁴² compared with non-smokers (SORT level A).

Biofilm control. Elements of plaque biofilm have the capacity to trigger an exuberant proinflammatory response that counteracts the wound-healing processes necessary for periodontal regeneration. Clinical studies demonstrate that poor plaque control and residual periodontal infection are associated with compromised outcomes after regenerative surgery.^{14,43-49} A

Table 1.
Search Strategies

Topic of Interest (on intrabony periodontal regeneration)	Search Words (English)	Search Time Frame (month/year)	Total Results	Citations Used	Quality of Evidence Used* (n citations)
Diabetes	Periodontal regeneration + diabetes mellitus + human	10/02 to 3/14	28	3	Level 3 (3)
Tooth mobility	Periodontal regeneration + tooth mobility + human	Up to 3/14	63	3	Level 1 (2) Level 2 (1)
Splinting	Periodontal regeneration + splinting + human	Up to 3/14	10	3	Level 1 (2) Level 2 (1)
Non-surgical therapy	Periodontal regeneration + non-surgical therapy + human	10/02 to 3/14	40	2	Level 1 (1) Level 2 (1)
Smoking	Periodontal regeneration + smoking + human	10/02 to 3/14	103	8	Level 1 (1) Level 2 (6) Level 3 (1)
Defect morphology: number of walls, width, and depth	Periodontal regeneration + defect morphology + human (152) Periodontal regeneration + bony walls + human (7) Periodontal regeneration defect width + human (43) Periodontal regeneration defect depth + human (229)	10/02 to 3/14	431	6	Level 1 (4) Level 2 (1) Level 3 (1)
Access flap surgery	Periodontal flap surgery + periodontal regeneration + human patients	10/02 to 3/14	429	16	Level 1 (9) Level 2 (5) Level 3 (2)
Conservative and minimally invasive surgery	Periodontal regeneration + minimally invasive surgery + human	10/02 to 3/14	38	17	Level 1 (6) Level 2 (5) Level 3 (6)
EMDs/enamel matrix proteins	Enamel matrix derivatives/enamel matrix proteins + periodontal regeneration + human patients	Up to 3/14	110	43	Level 1 (40) Level 2 (3)
PDGF	Platelet-derived growth factor + periodontal regeneration + human patients	Up to 3/14	35	8	Level 1 (3) Level 2 (5)
Laser periodontal therapy	Laser periodontal therapy + periodontal regeneration + human patients	Up to 3/14	37	2	Level 2 (2)
Orthodontic treatment	Orthodontic treatment + periodontal regeneration + intrabony/infrabony/intraosseous defects + human patients	Up to 3/14	69	10	Level 1 (1) Level 2 (9)
Endodontic treatment	Endodontic treatment + periodontal regeneration + intrabony/infrabony/intraosseous defects + human patients	Up 3/14	21	3	Level 2 (3)

* Level 1 = good-quality patient-oriented evidence (meta-analysis and randomized clinical trials); Level 2 = limited-quality patient-oriented evidence (lower-quality clinical trial with inconsistent findings, cohort study, and case-control study); and Level 3 = other evidence (consensus guidelines, extrapolations from bench research, usual practice, and case series).

full-mouth plaque score and/or full-mouth bleeding score of $\leq 15\%$,⁵⁰⁻⁵² $\leq 20\%$,^{53,54} and $\leq 25\%$ ⁵⁵⁻⁵⁸ have been reported as measures of acceptable preoperative oral hygiene (SORT level C).

Tooth-Related Considerations: Mobility

The effect of tooth mobility on regenerative therapy remains controversial. In a retrospective study comparing results between degrees of mobility, Trejo and Weltman⁵⁹ concluded that favorable periodontal regenerative outcomes were achieved on teeth with presurgical Miller Class 1 or 2 mobility.⁶⁰ After 1 year, no difference in PD and CAL was found between non-mobile teeth (Class 0) and mobile teeth (Class 1 or 2). Participants maintained low plaque and gingival index scores and were enrolled in a 2- to 3-month maintenance program to limit inflammation.⁵⁹ The therapeutic potential of splinting was revisited by Schulz et al.⁶¹ Presplinting of mobile teeth treated using a bone replacement graft resulted in significantly reduced PD compared with non-splinted, grafted teeth at 1 year. The authors conclude that the observed differences may be attributable to loss of bone grafting material caused by tooth mobility and that tooth stability is beneficial to the wound-healing process when using a bone replacement graft.⁶¹ Cortellini et al.⁵⁷ performed GTR therapy on severely mobile (Class 3), “hopeless” teeth. Twenty-two of the 25 teeth were splinted preoperatively, and patients had a high degree of compliance with home and professional care. After 5 years, 92% (23 of 25) of teeth were in function with an average gain in CAL of 7.7 mm at 1 year, which was maintained over 5 years. Siciliano et al.⁶² reported on regenerative outcomes on teeth with primarily 1-wall defects and Class 1 or 2 mobility. Mobile teeth were splinted before surgery, and, although no comparison between splinted and non-splinted teeth was made, statistically significant improvements were reported compared with baseline measurements⁶² (SORT level B).

Therapeutic Approaches and Surgical Considerations

Surgical regenerative strategies diverge primarily with respect to flap design and use of barrier membranes and materials. Conventional flap access designs primarily focus on buccal and lingual/oral flap reflection beyond the limits of the intrabony defect, whereas minimally invasive surgical approaches primarily focus on conservative flap reflection to the bony limits of the defect or to single-flap designs. Both flap approaches have been reported incorporating the use of membranes, bone replacement grafts, and/or biomimetic agents (EMD and rhPDGF-BB).

Access flap surgery/GTR. Systematic reviews provide evidence that clinical outcome measures for

GTR are superior to open flap debridement (OFD).^{16,63-65} Studies also reported superior outcomes (PD, CAL, and REC) for GTR compared with OFD⁶⁶⁻⁷⁰ (Table 2).^{38,51,71-85} Furthermore, a long-term study (>10 years) and two systematic reviews concluded that regenerative outcomes were comparable between resorbable and non-resorbable membranes.^{16,39,64} Regarding membrane exposure, a meta-analysis performed by Machtei⁶⁸ found statistically significant differences in mean gain in vertical CAL between exposed and non-exposed membrane groups; however, a mean difference of 0.47 mm in defect fill was found between groups (SORT level A).

Conservative and minimally invasive flap access. Several conservative and minimally invasive flap approaches, including minimally invasive surgery (MIS),⁸⁶ a modification called MIS technique (MIST),⁵³ modified MIST (M-MIST),⁵⁴ and the single-flap approach (SFA),⁸⁷ have been described (Table 3).⁸⁸⁻⁹⁸ These techniques minimize the degree of wounding and flap reflection and emphasize wound stability, primary closure, and space maintenance.⁹⁹ The use of microsurgical instrumentation and magnification has been advocated when performing these procedures.⁹⁹ Currently, studies comparing minimally invasive approaches to OFD are lacking. Harrel and Rees⁸⁶ described the MIS technique, which introduced conservative surgical approaches to periodontal regeneration. One- and 6-year results demonstrate favorable clinical outcomes in combination with EMD.^{89,91} The MIST and M-MIST⁵⁴ techniques capitalize on papilla preservation incision designs. Studies report significant reductions in PD, gains in CAL, and minimal REC at 1 year compared with baseline (Table 3).^{52-56,58,88,94-96,99,100} The SFA introduced by Trombelli et al.⁷⁵ involves limited reflection of a buccal or lingual envelope flap and placement of a barrier membrane. Improvements in PD and CAL were reported at 6 and 12 months compared with baseline (Table 3).^{75,87,92} In a systematic review and meta-analysis, Graziani et al.¹⁰¹ concluded that, although clinical performance may vary according to the type of surgical flap used, a high rate of tooth retention and improvements in periodontal clinical parameters is possible when conservative surgery is used in the treatment of intrabony defects (SORT level A).

Non-surgical therapy. Ribeiro et al.⁹⁴ compared minimally invasive non-surgical technique (MINST) with MIST in the treatment of intrabony defects. Using mini-curets and very thin ultrasonic tips, they reported that the MINST was comparable with MIST in terms of PD reduction, CAL gain, and REC. In a separate study, clinical and radiographic findings were collected retrospectively from patients after non-surgical therapy of intrabony defects.⁹⁸ Significant reductions were found in radiographic defect depth and

widening of the radiographic intra-bony defect angle, with complete fill in some cases (SORT level C).

Defect morphology: number of walls, width, and depth. Regenerative techniques and the understanding of the factors influencing success or failure have evolved over time. Defects with a depth >3 mm and a radiographic defect angle ≤25 degrees were reported to be most amenable to regenerative procedures using conventional GTR-based approaches.^{41,48,49,102-104} Using logistic regression analysis, Cosyn et al.⁸⁸ identified non-supportive anatomy—defined as predominantly a 1-wall defect—as a risk factor for failure (odds ratio [OR] ≥10.4). In the same study, non-supportive defect anatomy (1-wall versus 2-wall, OR = 58.8) and a thin-scalloped gingival biotype (OR = 76.9) were identified as risk factors for increased REC at the midfacial aspect.⁸⁸ Conversely, other studies^{37,38,48,72} and systematic reviews^{16,63,99,105} have concluded that periodontal regenerative approaches are effective in the treatment of intra-bony defects with a wide range of depths, widths, and bony walls (SORT level B).

Space availability/maintenance and wound/clot stability are key factors in determining success of regenerative therapy.⁹⁹ The wound-stabilizing and space-making properties of membranes are generally considered key factors underlying the effectiveness of GTR.^{106,107} Tonetti et al.⁴⁹ reported that the amount of space available under the membrane, rather than total depth of the intra-bony defect, was the most significant predictor of regenerative outcome. Consistent with the latter findings, Trombelli et al.³⁷ found no correlation between defect morphology and gain in probing bone level.

PERIODONTAL REGENERATIVE MATERIALS AND APPROACH

Bone Replacement Grafts and GTR in Regeneration

Previous reviews summarized the many clinical studies that demonstrated bone replacement grafts and GTR are successful treatment modalities for periodontal regeneration.^{15,16} Since these reviews, no RCTs and systematic reviews on bone replacement grafts were identified. Two systematic reviews on GTR have been published to update the field.^{17,108} Clinical studies have focused on new membranes and the use of the GTR approach in combination with various bone replacement and EMD.^{40,66,71,78,80,109-132} With the exception of studies that examined the use of GTR in conjunction with EMD, the number of studies was limited, and the overall conclusions were consistent with earlier evidence-based reviews.^{15,16} The discussion of combination therapy using GTR and EMD is discussed below.

Laser. The role of lasers in the treatment of periodontitis remains controversial. At the center of

this polemic debate is the LAR protocol. Using the Nd:YAG laser with this procedure, periodontal regeneration is achievable on a previously diseased root surface. Two recent publications, based on human histology, suggest that this protocol may have merit in periodontal therapy.^{30,133} In the initial histologic report on the protocol, Yukna et al.¹³³ reported that the six teeth treated with LAR** demonstrated evidence of new attachment, with new cementum and inserting PDL, after 3 months. Recently, Nevins et al.³⁰ reported that, of the 10 specimens evaluated after LAR treatment, five teeth had evidence of periodontal regeneration, one tooth had new attachment with new cementum and inserting collagen fibers, and the other four teeth healed with a long junctional epithelium. Unlike the previous study by Yukna et al.,¹³³ healing was observed after 9 months, which is more consistent with the normally observed 6 to 24 months for optimal regeneration.^{16,31,102,105,134-136} This report provides proof of principle that LAR therapy can induce periodontal regeneration (SORT level C).

Despite the evidence for new attachment and periodontal regeneration, information about clinical predictability of this procedure has yet to be demonstrated. There are no well-documented clinical reports or randomized controlled studies that define the frequency and extent of regeneration that can be achieved. However, **this technique is intriguing in that it is another approach to minimally invasive surgical therapies as reviewed by Cortellini.⁹⁹ A minimally invasive surgical approach may offer advantages in regeneration of defects in the esthetic zone in which minimal soft tissue change is required. Additionally, because of the minimally invasive nature and expendable surgical materials required, this approach may be appropriate for multiple defects as a first line of management.**

EMD. EMD has been available as a biologic periodontal regenerative material for ≈15 years.^{28,137} The biologic properties of EMD have been summarized recently.^{138,139} Several studies have provided human histologic evidences of intra-bony regeneration associated with EMD therapy.^{3,4,28,29,32} EMD is present on root surfaces for ≥4 weeks after application, and early signs of periodontal wound regeneration can be observed after 2 to 6 weeks.^{140,141} Signs of clinical improvement are present as early as 6 months after treatment.^{111,112,114,116,120,130}

EMD versus OFD. The first RCT to compare the effectiveness of EMD versus OFD was published by Heijl et al.¹³⁷ Clinical reductions in PD, increases in CAL, and increases in linear bone growth with EMD were statistically superior to improvements observed

** LANAP, Millenium Dental Technologies.

Table 2.
Controlled Clinical Studies Using Access Flap and GTR Approaches

Study	Study Design	Time (months)	Treatment (n defects)	Mean PD Change (mm)		Mean CAL Change (mm)		Mean Linear Bone Fill		Mean REC Change (mm)*	P
				Change (mm)	P	Change (mm)	P	Fill	P		
Aimetti et al., 2005 ⁷²	Paired	12	GTR-R (18)	3.44	<0.001	2.89	<0.001	2.13 mm	<0.001	0.56	0.002
			OFD (18)	2.39	<0.001	1.50	<0.001	1.05 mm	<0.001	0.89	<0.001
			GTR-R vs OFD	1.05	<0.001	1.39	<0.001	1.08 mm	NS	-0.330	NS
Cortellini and Tonetti, 2005 ⁵¹	Parallel	12	GTR-NR (12)	6.6	<0.001	1.68	<0.001	94.7%	ND	0.2	NS
			GTR-R (7)	5.9	<0.001	2.59	<0.001	88.9%	ND	0.1	NS
			GTR-R + BG (11)	6.3	<0.001	3.54	<0.001	88.2%	ND	-0.3	NS
			EMD (10)	5.8	<0.001	4.59	<0.001	95.4%	ND	0.2	NS
Tonetti et al., 2004 ⁷⁴	Parallel	12	GTR + BG (61)	3.7	0.004	3.3	0.02	ND	ND	0.3	0.04
			PPF (59)	3.2		2.5		ND	ND	0.7	
Bianchi and Bassetti, 2009 ⁷³	Case series	12	GTR + BG (14)	5.14	NS	4.57	<0.001	ND	ND	0.57	0.46
Eickholz et al., 2004 ³⁸	Case series	6 24	GTR (50)	4.22	<0.001	3.35	<0.001	0.70 mm	NS	ND	ND
				4.38	<0.001	3.38	<0.001	1.21 mm	0.005		
Stavropoulos et al., 2004 ¹¹	Case series	12	GTR-nons (17)	5.5	<0.01	4.3	0.03	ND	ND	1.2	NS
			GTR-S (15)	4.5		3.2		ND	ND	1.3	
Stravropoulos and Karring, 2005 ⁷⁶	Case series	12 60	GTR + BG (15)	5.0	<0.01	3.8	<0.01	4.7 mm	<0.01	1.2	<0.01
				4.6	<0.01	4.1	<0.01	4.9 mm	0.01	0.5	NS
Stravropoulos and Karring, 2004 ⁷⁷	Case series	12 60 to 72	GTR (25)	4.9	<0.01	3.8	<0.01	ND	ND	1.1	<0.01
				4.0	<0.001	3.6	<0.01	ND	ND	0.4	NS
Klein et al., 2001 ⁴¹	Case series	6 24	GTR (39)	4.2	<0.001	3.15	<0.001	1.30 mm	<0.01	ND	ND
				4.3	<0.001	3.31	<0.001	1.54 mm	<0.005	ND	ND
Cortellini et al., 2011 ⁵⁷	Parallel	12	GTR (25)	8.8	<0.001	7.7	<0.001	8.5 mm	<0.001	1.1	0.006
			Ext/implant/FPD	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
			GTR (25)	8.9	NS	7.7	NS	8.6 mm	NS	1.2	NS
			Ext/implant/FPD	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND

Table 2. (continued)
Controlled Clinical Studies Using Access Flap and GTR Approaches

Study	Study Design	Time (months)	Treatment (n defects)	Mean PD Change (mm)	P	Mean CAL Change (mm)	P	Mean Linear Bone Fill	P	Mean REC Change (mm)*	P
Siciliano et al., 2011 ⁶²	Parallel	12	GTR (20)	5.5	<0.001	4.1	<0.001	ND	ND	0.5	NS
			EMD (20)	2.9	<0.001	2.4	<0.001	ND	ND	0.7	NS
Döri et al., 2005 ⁷⁸	Parallel	12	EMD + BG + PRP (12)	5.5	<0.001	4.5	<0.001	ND	ND	1.0	<0.01
			EMD + BG (12)	5.5	<0.001	4.5	<0.001	ND	ND	1.0	<0.01
			EMD + BG + PRP (12)	4.9	<0.001	4.3	<0.001	ND	ND	0.6	<0.01
			EMD + BG (12)	5.0	<0.001	4.3	<0.001	ND	ND	0.7	<0.01
Kim et al., 2002 ⁷⁹	Case series, paired	6	GTR-NR (12)	4.2	ND	2.6	0.012	ND	ND	ND	ND
			GTR-R (12)	4.1	ND	3.0	0.012	ND	ND	ND	ND
			GTR-NR (12)	2.6	ND	1.6	0.03	1.5 mm	NS	ND	ND
			GTR-R (12)	3.6	ND	3.0	0.01	2.1 mm	0.02	ND	ND
Sculean et al., 2004 ⁶⁰	Parallel	12	EMD (11)	4.6	<0.001	3.4	<0.001	ND	ND	1.3	<0.001
			GTR (11)	4.4	<0.001	3.2	<0.001	ND	ND	1.2	<0.001
			EMD + GTR (10)	4.4	<0.001	3.0	<0.001	ND	ND	1.5	<0.001
			OFD (10)	3.3	<0.001	1.6	<0.001	ND	ND	1.7	<0.001
			EMD (11)	4.3	<0.001	2.9	<0.001	ND	ND	1.3	<0.001
			GTR (11)	3.9	<0.001	2.7	<0.001	ND	ND	1.2	<0.001
Slotte et al., 2007 ⁸¹	Case series	12	EMD + GTR (10)	4.0	<0.001	2.6	<0.001	ND	ND	1.5	<0.001
			OFD (10)	2.7	<0.001	1.3	<0.001	ND	ND	1.7	<0.001
Sculean et al., 2008 ⁶⁷	Parallel	12	GTR + BG (24)	5.2	ND	4.2	ND	6.0 mm	ND	1.0	ND
			EMD (10)	4.1	<0.001	3.4	<0.001	ND	ND	0.7	<0.001
			GTR (10)	4.2	<0.001	3.2	<0.001	ND	ND	1.0	<0.001
Sculean et al., 2008 ⁶⁷	Parallel	120	EMD + GTR (9)	4.3	<0.001	3.3	<0.001	ND	ND	1.0	<0.001
			OFD (9)	3.7	<0.001	2.0	<0.001	ND	ND	1.7	<0.001
			EMD (10)	4.6	NS	2.9	<0.001	ND	ND	0.7	NS
			GTR (10)	3.4	NS	2.8	<0.001	ND	ND	0.6	NS
			EMD + GTR (9)	3.6	NS	2.9	<0.001	ND	ND	0.6	NS
			OFD (9)	3.5	NS	1.8	<0.001	ND	ND	1.7	NS

Table 2. (continued)
Controlled Clinical Studies Using Access Flap and GTR Approaches

Study	Study Design	Time (months)	Treatment (n defects)	Mean PD		Mean CAL		Mean Linear Bone		P	Mean REC Change (mm)*	P
				Change (mm)	P	Change (mm)	P	Fill	P			
Pretzl et al., 2008 ⁸²	Paired	12	GTR-R (15)	4.4	ND	3.3	0.001	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
		12	GTR-NR (15)	4.7	ND	3.4	<0.001	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
		120	GTR-R (8)	4.2	ND	3.5	0.005	2.7 mm	ND	ND	ND	ND
		120	GTR-NR (8)	2.4	ND	1.5	0.02	0.8 mm	ND	ND	ND	ND
Pretzl et al., 2009 ⁸³	Paired	12	GTR-RI (15)	4.3	<0.001	3.89	<0.001	1.73 mm	ND	0.01	ND	ND
		12	GTR-R2 (15)	5.16	<0.001	4.06	<0.001	2.11 mm	ND	0.006	ND	ND
		120	GTR-RI (11)	3.16	0.004	2.44	0.004	3.72 mm	ND	NS	ND	ND
		120	GTR-R2 (11)	3.16	<0.001	2.44	0.002	3.49 mm	ND	0.02	ND	ND
Nygaard-Østby et al., 2010 ⁸⁴	Paired	9	BG (20)	2.9	<0.05	2.5	<0.05	1.9 mm	0.4	NS	0.4	NS
		9	BG + GTR (20)	3.2	<0.05	2.5	<0.05	2.5 mm	0.6	<0.05	0.6	NS
		120	BG (13)	2.7	<0.05	2.2	<0.05	1.3 mm	0.6	NS	0.6	NS
		120	BG + GTR (13)	4.2	<0.05	3.8	<0.05	3.9 mm	0.7	<0.05	0.7	NS
Nickles et al., 2009 ⁸⁵	Parallel	12	OFD (17)	3.71	ND	3.47	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
		12	GTR (18)	4.14	ND	3.67	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
		120	OFD (17)	4.41	ND	3.41	ND	2.03 mm	ND	0.002	ND	ND
		120	GTR (18)	4.25	ND	2.89	ND	1.69 mm	ND	0.02	ND	ND
Paired	Paired	12	OFD (10)	3.60	ND	3.60	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
		12	GTR (10)	3.95	ND	3.50	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
		120	OFD (10)	4.40	ND	3.65	ND	2.15 mm	ND	0.01	ND	ND
		120	GTR (10)	4.15	ND	2.85	ND	1.30 mm	ND	NS	ND	ND

R = resorbable; NR = non-resorbable; BG = bone graft; PPF = papilla preservation flap; nonS = non-smoker; S = smoker; Ext = extraction; FPD = fixed partial denture; ND = not defined; NS = not significant.
 * Negative values indicate gain.

Table 3. **Controlled Clinical Studies Using Conservative and Minimally Invasive Surgical Approaches**

Study	Study Design	Time (months)	Treatment (n defects)	Mean PD Change (mm)	P	Mean CAL Change (mm)	P	Mean Linear Bone Fill	P	Mean REC Change (mm)	P
Cortellini and Tonetti, 2007 ⁵³	Case series	12	MIST + EMD (40)	5.2	<0.001	4.9	<0.001	77.6%	ND	0.4	0.02
Cortellini and Tonetti, 2007 ⁵⁸	Case series	12	MIST + EMD (13)	4.8	<0.001	4.8	<0.001	88.7%	ND	0.1	NS
Cortellini et al., 2008 ⁵⁵	Case series	12	MIST + EMD (40)	4.6	<0.001	4.4	<0.001	83%	ND	0.2	0.04
Cortellini et al., 2009 ⁵⁶	Case series	12	MIST + EMD (40)	5.2	<0.001	4.9	<0.001	77.6%	ND	0.4	0.02
Cortellini and Tonetti, 2011 ⁵²	Parallel	12	M-MIST (15)	3.1	<0.001	4.1	<0.001	77%	NS	0.3	NS
		12	M-MIST + EMD (15)	3.4	<0.001	4.1	<0.001	71%	NS	0.2	NS
		12	M-MIST + EMD + BG (15)	3.3	<0.001	3.7	<0.001	78%	NS	0.2	NS
Cortellini and Tonetti, 2009 ⁵⁴	Case series	12	M-MIST + EMD (15) MIST + EMD (5)	4.6 5.0	<0.001 <0.001	4.5 4.8	<0.001 <0.001	75.5% ND	ND ND	0.07 0.2	NS
Cosyn et al., 2012 ⁸⁸	Case series	12	MIST/M-MIST + BG (84)	3.5	ND	3.1	ND	53%	ND	0.5	ND
Harrel et al., 2005 ⁸⁹	Case series	11	MIS + EMD (160)	3.56	0.002	3.57	0.01	ND	ND	0.01	ND
Harrel et al., 1999 ⁹⁰	Case series	21.7	MIS + BG (194)	4.58	<0.001	4.87	<0.001	ND	ND	ND	ND
Harrel et al., 2010 ⁹¹	Case series	72	MIS + EMD (142)	3.78	0.03	3.7	NS	ND	ND	0.0	ND
Trombelli et al., 2012 ⁹²	Parallel	6	SFA (14)	5.2	<0.001	4.5	<0.001	ND	ND	0.7	0.006
		6	DFA (14)	3.9		3.4				0.5	ND
Trombelli et al., 2010 ⁷⁵	Parallel	6	SFA + GTR (12)	5.3	<0.001	4.7	<0.001	ND	ND	0.4	NS
		6	SFA (12)	5.3	<0.001	4.4	<0.001	ND	ND	0.8	0.005
Trombelli et al., 2009 ⁸⁷	Case series	6-14	SFA/GTR (10)	5.2	<0.001	4.8	<0.001	ND	ND	0.4	NS
Wachtel et al., 2003 ⁹³	Split-mouth	6	Microsurgery + EMD (26)	3.3	<0.05	2.8	<0.05	ND	ND	0.5	<0.05
		6	Microsurgery (26)	2.2	<0.05	2.0	<0.05	ND	ND	0.2	NS
		12	Microsurgery + EMD (26)	3.9	<0.05	3.6	<0.05	ND	ND	0.3	NS
		12	Microsurgery (26)	2.11	<0.05	1.7	<0.05	ND	ND	0.4	NS

Table 3. (continued)
Controlled Clinical Studies Using Conservative and Minimally Invasive Surgical Approaches

Study	Study Design	Time (months)	Treatment (n defects)	Mean PD Change (mm)	P	Mean CAL Change (mm)	P	Mean Linear Bone Fill	P	Mean REC Change (mm)	P
Ribeiro et al., 2011 ⁹⁴	Parallel	6	MIST (14) MINST (13)	3.51 3.13	<0.05 <0.05	2.85 2.56	<0.05 <0.05	ND ND	ND ND	0.48 0.45	NS NS
Ribeiro et al., 2011 ⁹⁵	Parallel	6	MIST (15) MIST + EMD (15)	3.55 3.56	<0.05 <0.05	8.21 9.21	<0.05 <0.05	0.95 1.52	<0.05 <0.05	0.54 0.46	NS NS
Mishra et al., 2013 ⁹⁶	Parallel		MIST (12) MIST-rhPDGF-BB (12)	3.82 4.18	NS	2.64 3.0	NS	1.85 mm 1.89 mm	NS	0.55 0.82	NS
Fickl et al., 2009 ⁹⁷	Split-mouth	6 6	Microsurgery (35) Microsurgery + EMD (35)	2.1 3.5	<0.001 <0.001	1.6 2.7	<0.002 <0.002	0.7 1.4	0.04 0.39	0.5 0.6	0.02 0.003
Zucchelli et al., 2002 ⁴⁰	Parallel	12 12	Microsurgery (35) Microsurgery + EMD (35)	2.4 4.2	<0.001 <0.001	1.7 3.7	<0.001 <0.001	1.1 2.5	<0.001 <0.001	0.7 0.5	0.002 0.008
Nibali et al., 2011 ⁹⁸	Case series	12-18	EMD + SPP (30) GTR + SPP (30) SPP/access flap (30) Non-surgical therapy (126)	5.1 6.5 4.5 Buccal: 2.24 Lingual: 2.29	<0.05 <0.05 <0.05 <0.001 <0.001	4.2 4.9 2.6 1.42 1.5	<0.05 <0.05 <0.05 <0.001 <0.001	ND ND ND ND ND	ND ND ND ND ND	1.0 1.6 1.9 MB or DB: 0.8 ML or DL: 0.8	<0.05 <0.05 <0.05 <0.001 <0.001

BG = bone graft; DFA = double-flap approach; MINST = minimally invasive non-surgical technique; SFA = simplified papilla preservation; SPP = single-flap approach; ND = not defined; NS = not significant; MB = mesio-buccal; DB = disto-buccal; ML = mesio-lingual; DL = disto-lingual.

Table 4. **Controlled Clinical Studies Comparing Treatment of Intrabony Defects With OFD With or Without EMD**

Study	Time (months)	Study Design	Treatments (n defects)	PD Change (mm)	P	CAL Change (mm)	P	Linear Bone/Bone Fill	P
Heijl et al., 1997 ¹³⁷	8	Split-mouth	EMD (34)	3.3	<0.01	2.1	<0.01	0.9 mm	<0.001
			OFD (34)	2.6		1.5		-0.1 mm	
			EMD (34)	3.3	<0.01	2.3	<0.01	2.2 mm	<0.001
	36		OFD (34)	2.6		1.7		-0.2 mm	
			EMD (34)	3.1	<0.01	2.2	<0.01	2.6 mm	<0.001
			OFD (34)	2.3		1.7		0	
Pontoriero et al., 1999 ¹¹⁸	12	Split-mouth	EMD (10)	4.4	<0.001	2.9	<0.001	ND	
			OFD (10)	3.5		1.8			
Silvestri et al., 2000 ¹²⁷	12	Parallel	EMD (10)	4.8	<0.01	4.5	<0.01	ND	
			OFD (10)	1.4		1.2			
Okuda et al., 2000 ¹⁴⁶	12	Split-mouth	EMD (18)	3.00	<0.05	1.72	<0.05	ND	
			OFD (18)	2.22		0.83			
Froum et al., 2001 ¹⁴⁴	12	Split-mouth	EMD (53)	4.94	<0.001	4.28	<0.001	3.83 mm	<0.001
			OFD (31)	2.24		2.65		74.0% 1.47 mm 22.7%	
Sculean et al., 2001 ¹²⁶	12	Parallel	EMD (14)	4.6	<0.05	3.4	<0.05	ND	
			OFD (14)	3.3		1.7			
Sculean et al., 2004 ⁸⁰	60		EMD (14)	4.3	<0.001	2.9	<0.05	ND	
			OFD (14)	2.7		1.3			
Tonetti et al., 2002 ⁴⁷	12	Parallel	EMD (83)	3.9	<0.02	3.1	<0.01	ND	
			OFD (83)	3.3		2.5			
Zucchelli et al., 2002 ⁴⁰	12	Parallel	EMD (30)	5.1	<0.01	4.2	<0.01	ND	
			OFD (30)	4.5		2.6			
Parodi et al., 2004 ¹⁴⁷	36	Case series	EMD (16)	4.18	<0.01	3.12	<0.01	ND	
			EMD (16)	4.94		4.20			
Francetti et al., 2004 ¹⁴³	12	Parallel	EMD (12)	4.71	<0.05	4.14	<0.05	2.96 mm	<0.05
			OFD (12)	2.57		2.29		1.44 mm	
			EMD (12)	4.86	<0.05	4.29	<0.05	3.44 mm	<0.05
			OFD (12)	3.00		2.71		1.84 mm	
Rösing et al., 2005 ¹⁴⁸	12	Split mouth	EMD (14)	4.17	NS	2.01	NS	0.94 mm	NS
			OFD (14)	4.39		2.16		0.91 mm	

Table 4. (continued)
Controlled Clinical Studies Comparing Treatment of Intra-bony Defects With OFD With or Without EMD

Study	Time (months)	Study Design	Treatments (n defects)	PD Change (mm)	P	CAL Change (mm)	P	Linear Bone/Bone Fill	P
Grusovin and Esposito, 2009 ¹⁴⁵	12	Parallel	EMD (15)	4.2	NS	3.4	NS	2.5	NS
			OFD (15)	3.9		3.3		2.5	
Chambrone et al., 2010 ¹⁴²	12	Parallel	EMD	4.00	NS	3.46	NS	ND	
			OFD	3.49		3.65		ND	
	24		EMD	4.21	<0.05	5.69	NS	ND	
			OFD	3.28		5.24		ND	

NS = not significant.

with OFD. Subsequently, 13 additional studies evaluated the efficacy of EMD versus OFD, with the majority confirming that OFD followed by EMD application resulted in substantial improvements in clinical measurements and bone fill with EMD in the management of intra-bony defects (Table 4)^{40,47,80,118,126,127,137,142-148} (SORT level A). Neither postoperative antibiotics¹⁴⁹ nor EDTA root conditioning improved the clinical outcome of EMD therapy.^{150,151}

EMD versus GTR. Of the 11 studies comparing the clinical management of intra-bony defects with EMD versus GTR, all but one failed to show any significant difference (Table 5)^{40,62,66,80,110,117,118,125-129,142-148} (SORT level A). The noted exception was an RCT that compared the two therapeutic modalities in deep, non-contained intra-bony defects.⁶² In these defects, GTR with titanium reinforcement was superior. The latter results suggest that, in situations in which defect configuration is broad or lacking in wall containment, a supported barrier membrane may be critical in the success of EMD-associated regeneration. Additionally, no added clinical advantage was observed when EMD was combined with GTR.^{80,117,126}

EMD alone versus EMD used in combined therapy. There are several studies in which EMD has been used in combined therapy (Table 6).^{71,78,109,111-116,119-124,130-132,152-155} Histologic evidence of periodontal regeneration has been demonstrated when EMD is used in combination with autogenous bone, a bovine-derived natural bone mineral (NBM),^{††} bioactive glass,^{‡‡} NBM + PRP, nanocrystalline hydroxyapatite (NHA), or biphasic calcium phosphate.^{7,136,156-158} The majority of the studies indicate no added benefits in either clinical and radiographic gains when EMD is used with the addition of graft materials.^{71,78,109,111,113,114,119-124,152-155} These updated studies confirmed the conclusions of meta-analyses of RCTs that there are few additional benefits of EMD when used in conjunction with other regenerative materials/approaches¹⁵⁹ (SORT level A). The exceptions are limited reports that indicate that improved PD, CAL, and/or bone fill is achievable when EMD augments the effect of bone grafts^{112,131} or bone graft enhances the effects of EMD.^{115,116,132}

In summary, EMD is a semipurified protein preparation from developing porcine teeth that contains a mixture of low-molecular-weight proteins. Although there were initial concerns about the poorly characterized nature of this preparation, recent reports suggest that the mixture may work

†† Bio-Oss, Geistlich Pharma North America, Princeton, NJ.
 ‡‡ PerioGlas, NovaBone, Jacksonville, FL.

Table 5.
Controlled Clinical Studies Comparing Treatment of Intra-bony Defects With EMD Versus GTR

Study	Time (months)	Study Design	Treatments (n defects)	PD Change (mm)	P	C.AL Change (mm)	P	Linear Bone/Bone Fill	P
Pontoriero et al., 1999 ¹¹⁸	12	Split-mouth	EMD (10) GTR (30)	4.4 4.5	NS	2.9 3.1	NS	ND	NS
Silvestri et al., 2000 ¹²⁷	12	Parallel	EMD (10) GTR (10)	4.8 5.9	NS	4.5 4.8	NS	ND	NS
Sculean et al., 2001 ¹²⁶	12	Parallel	EMD (14) GTR (14) EMD + GTR (14)	4.1 4.2 4.3	NS	3.4 3.1 3.4	NS	ND	NS
Sculean et al., 2004 ⁸⁰	60	Parallel	EMD (14) GTR (14) EMD + GTR (14)	4.3 3.9 4.0	NS	2.9 2.7 2.6	NS	ND	NS
Zucchelli et al., 2002 ⁴⁰	12	Parallel	EMD (30) GTR (30)	5.1 6.5	<0.01	4.2 4.9	<0.01	ND	<0.01
Minabe et al., 2002 ¹¹⁷	12	Parallel	EMD (22) GTR (23) EMD + GTR (24)	5.4 4.6 5.0	NS	3.0 3.0 3.2	NS	40% 35% 49%	NS
Silvestri et al., 2003 ¹²⁸	12	Parallel	EMD (49) GTR (49)	5.3 5.6	NS	4.1 4.3	NS	ND	NS
Sanz et al., 2004 ⁵⁶	12	Parallel	EMD (35) GTR (32)	3.8 3.3	NS	3.1 2.5	NS	ND	NS
Sipos et al., 2005 ¹²⁹	12	Split-mouth	EMD (12) GTR (12)	2.86 3.02	NS	1.28 1.65	NS	1.63 mm 1.58 mm	NS
Sculean et al., 2006 ¹²⁵	12	Split-mouth	EMD (10) GTR (10)	4.1 4.6	NS	3.2 3.0	NS	ND	NS
	96	Split-mouth	EMD (10) GTR (10)	3.4 3.7	NS	2.8 2.9	NS	ND	NS
Crea et al., 2008 ¹¹⁰	12	Parallel	EMD (19) GTR (20)	3.5 3.5	NS	2.9 2.5	<0.05	50.5% 57.0%	NS
	36	Parallel	EMD (19) GTR (20)	3.1 3.2	NS	2.4 2.0	<0.05	58.8% 53.7%	NS
Siciliano et al., 2011 ⁶²	12	Parallel	EMD (20) GTR (20)	2.9 5.5	<0.001	2.4 4.1	<0.001	ND	<0.001

NS = not significant.

Table 6.
Controlled Clinical Studies Comparing Treatment of Intra-bony Defects With EMD Versus Combined Therapy

Study	Time (months)	Study Design	Treatments (n defects)	PD Change (mm)	P	CAL Change (mm)	P	Linear Bone/Bone Fill	P
Guida et al., 2007 ¹¹	12	Parallel	EMD (14) EMD + AB (14)	5.6 5.1	NS	4.6 4.9	NS	ND	
Yilmaz et al., 2010 ¹³¹	12	Parallel	EMD (20) EMD + AB (20)	4.6 5.6	<0.01	3.4 4.2	<0.01	2.8 mm 3.9 mm	<0.001
Gunnsky et al., 2004 ¹¹²	6	Parallel	EMD (34) EMD + DFDBA (33)	4.0 3.6	NS	3.2 3.0	NS	2.6 mm/55.3% 3.7 mm/74.9%	<0.001
Hoidal et al., 2008 ¹¹³	6	Parallel	DFDBA (20) EMD + DFDBA (17)	2.45 2.56	NS	1.63 1.47	NS	2.33/47.3% 1.91 mm/46.3%	NS
Rosen and Reynolds, 2002 ¹¹⁹	6	Case series	EMD + DFDBA (10) EMD-FDBA (12)	8.4 8.9	NS NS	9.2 9.1	NS NS	ND ND	
Al Machot et al., 2014 ¹⁵²	12	Parallel	EMD (19) NHA (19)	3.2 2.6		2.0 1.5	ND ND	1.6 mm 1.6 mm	NS
Lekovic et al., 2000 ¹¹⁶	6	Split-mouth	EMD (21) EMD + NBM (21)	1.91 3.43	<0.001	1.72 3.13	<0.001	1.33 mm/28.9% 3.82 mm/81.3%	<0.001
Scheyer et al., 2002 ¹²⁰	6	Split-mouth	NBM (17) EMD-NBM (17)	3.9 4.2	NS	3.7 3.8	NS	3.0 mm/67.0% 3.2 mm/63.3%	NS
Sculean et al., 2002 ¹²³	12	Parallel	NBM (16) EMD-NBM (16)	6.5 5.7	NS	4.9 4.7	NS	ND	
Velasquez-Plata et al., 2002 ¹³⁰	6	Split-mouth	EMD (16) EMD + NBM (16)	3.8 4.0	NS	2.9 3.4	NS	3.1 mm/64.9% 4.0 mm/76.9%	NS for bone fill <0.05 for bone fill
Zucchelli et al., 2003 ¹³²	12	Parallel	EMD (30) EMD + NBM (30)	5.8 6.2	NS	4.9 5.8	<0.01	4.3 mm 5.3 mm	<0.01
Sculean et al., 2005 ¹²²	12	Parallel	EMD (15) EMD + NBM (15)	4.5 4.2	NS	3.9 3.2	NS	ND	
Sculean et al., 2002 ¹²¹	12	Parallel	EMD (14) EMD + BG (14)	4.22 4.15	NS	3.07 3.22	NS	ND	
Sculean et al., 2005 ¹²⁴	12	Parallel	EMD (12) EMD + BG (13)	4.5 4.2	NS	3.9 3.2	NS	ND	

Table 6. (continued)
Controlled Clinical Studies Comparing Treatment of Intrabony Defects With EMD Versus Combined Therapy

Study	Time (months)	Study Design	Treatments (n defects)	PD Change (mm)	P	CAL Change (mm)	P	Linear Bone/Bone Fill	P
Sculean et al., 2007 ⁷¹	48	Parallel	EMD (12)	4.2	NS	3.4	NS	ND	
			EMD + BG (13)	4.1		3.4			
Kuru et al., 2006 ¹¹⁵	8	Split-mouth	EMD (26)	5.03	<0.05	4.06	<0.05	2.15 mm	<0.05
			EMD + BG (26)	5.73		5.17		2.76 mm	
Jepsen et al., 2008 ¹¹⁴	6	Parallel	EMD (35)	2.55	NS	1.83	NS	2.07 mm	NS
			EMD + BCP (38)	1.93		1.31		2.01 mm	
Döri et al., 2005 ⁷⁸	12	Parallel	EMD + NBM (12)	4.5	NS	3.1	NS	ND	
			EMD + β -TCP (12)	4.8	NS	3.7	NS	ND	
Döri et al., 2013 ¹⁵³	120	Parallel	EMD + NBM (11)	3.9	NS	3.1	NS		
			EMD + β -TCP (12)	4.0		3.0			
Döri et al., 2008 ¹⁵⁴	12	Parallel	EMD + NBM + PRP (13)	6.0	NS	5.0	NS	ND	
			EMD + NBM + PRP (13)	5.7	NS	4.8	NS	ND	
			EMD + NBM (12)	5.0	NS	4.3	NS	ND	
Döri et al., 2013 ¹⁵⁵	60	Parallel	EMD + NBM + PRP (12)	4.9	NS	4.3	NS	ND	
			EMD (19)	3.9		3.7		ND	
Bokan et al., 2006 ¹⁰⁹	12	Parallel	EMD + β -TCP (19)	4.1	NS	4.0	NS	ND	
			OFD (19)	3.8		2.1		ND	

AB = autogenous bone; NHA = nanocrystalline hydroxyapatite; NBM = natural bone mineral; BG = bio glass; BCP = biphasic calcium phosphate; β -TCP = beta tricalcium phosphate; NS = not significant.

synergistically on multiple levels to enhance periodontal regeneration.¹³⁸ When applied to root surfaces, the proteins are absorbed into the hydroxyapatite and collagen fibers of the root surface, in which they induce cementum formation followed by periodontal regeneration. Clinical use of EMD can generally be characterized as safe with excellent clinical healing and limited complications. EMD alone or in combination with graft materials provide clinical outcome and long-term clinical stability comparable with GTR.^{67,71,80,137,160,161} Although characterization of the EMD preparation remains incomplete, the challenge, as with allografts, is to provide a consistent batch of EMD, so the regenerative response is predictable.

rhPDGF-BB

rhPDGF-BB has been shown to enhance periodontal regeneration.¹⁶² Clinical application of the recombinant form of this growth factor indicates that it can promote regeneration of bone, ligament, and cementum.^{27,31} Two RCTs using rhPDGF-BB have been reported (Table 7).^{163,164} The first study was a prospective, masked, RCT to evaluate the safety and efficacy of rhPDGF-BB used in conjunction with synthetic β -tricalcium phosphate (β -TCP).¹⁶⁴ This study demonstrated that the use of rhPDGF-BB was safe and effective in the treatment of intrabony periodontal defects. Although improvements in PD and CAL were not significantly superior to grafted (control) intrabony defects, there was significant improvement in bone formation and accelerated wound healing as depicted by “the area under the curve” when grafted with rhPDGF-BB + β -TCP. Follow-up studies showed that the improved bone fill and linear bone growth continued to improve over 36 months, reaching maximal statistical significant bone fill after 24 months.^{134,135} In a report of a subset of this study population, after 5 years, the use of rhPDGF-BB resulted in a stable, physiologic attachment in the presence of good patient compliance.¹⁶⁵ When deterioration of the regenerative result was present, it was associated with patients’ smoking habits and poor compliance with supportive periodontal care.¹⁶⁵ The second multicenter RCT confirmed after 6 months not only improved bone fill but significant improvement of PD and CAL as well.¹⁶³

In summary, rhPDGF-BB can be safely used with therapeutic results comparable with other regenerative approaches (SORT level A). The unique advantages of this system are that no barrier membrane is required and there is consistency in the concentration of rhPDGF-BB delivered to a regenerative site, which would suggest more consistent clinical results.

THE RELATIONSHIP OF REGENERATIVE TREATMENT TO ENDODONTIC AND ORTHODONTIC THERAPY

Recent studies confirm that endodontically treated teeth with no evidence of pulpal or periapical pathology respond favorably to regenerative therapy.⁶²⁻⁶⁴ The regenerative outcomes of teeth with severe bone loss approaching the root apex were reported recently in a study that evaluated 22 of 25 teeth requiring endodontic therapy 3 months before GTR surgery.⁵⁷ Statistically significant reductions in PD and gains in CAL documented at 1 year were maintained for 5 years. However, no RCTs were identified on the relationship between regenerative treatment and endodontic treatment. Therefore, the best-practice management approach is based on one retrospective study⁶³ and two case series^{166,167} that reported no adverse influence of root canal treatment on the periodontal regenerative outcome (SORT level C).

In reviewing the relationship between regenerative treatment and orthodontic treatment, there are several case reports/series describing the treatment of intrabony defects by means of orthodontic therapy, alone or in combination with periodontal therapy.¹⁶⁸⁻¹⁷⁶ Additionally, one RCT was identified that evaluated the effect of periodontal regeneration combined with orthodontic treatment on clinical parameters in intrabony defects as discussed below.¹⁷⁷

Case series/reports have documented improvement of intrabony defects with orthodontic tooth movement alone, including bodily movement into intrabony defects;^{169,172,173} extrusive movement, such as a mesially tilted tooth with 1- or 2-wall intrabony defect;^{168,170,171} and orthodontic intrusion.¹⁷⁴⁻¹⁷⁶ Moreover, case reports suggest no adverse effects of orthodontic movement of teeth that had previously undergone regenerative therapy for intrabony defects.¹⁷⁸⁻¹⁸⁰

Recently, the first RCT evaluated the role of combined periodontal regenerative orthodontic treatment of 2- or 3-wall intrabony defects.¹⁷⁷ In this clinical trial, 47 patients were randomized into orthodontic extrusive force with pretreatment grafting of EMD + DFDBA plus orthodontic extrusion (test group) or EMD + DFDBA grafting alone (control group). After 1 year, both groups had improved PD, CAL, and bone fill; however, the test sites had significantly greater mean increase in open probing CAL in 2-wall intrabony defects than controls (SORT level C).

Patient Preferences and Clinical Outcomes

Patient options for regenerative approaches have increased. Personal and religious preferences can be respected as the clinician offers the appropriate regenerative modalities. The advent of GTR, EMD, rhPDGF, and LAR permits patients to select non-tissue

Table 7.
Controlled Clinical Studies Comparing Treatment of Intrabony Defects With rhPDGF-BB + β -TCP Versus β -TCP Alone

Study	Time (months)	Study Design	Treatments (n defects)	PD Change (mm)	P	CAL Change (mm)	P	Linear Bone/Bone Fill	P	
Nevins et al., 2005 ¹⁶⁴	6	Parallel	rhPDGF- β -TCP (60)	4.43	NS	3.8	NS	2.6 mm/7%	<0.001	
			β -TCP (59)	4.20		3.5		0.9 mm/18%		
			rhPDGF- β -TCP non-smoker (18)	NID				60%		
			rhPDGF- β -TCP non-smoker (12)	NID				16%		
			β -TCP smoker (12)	NID				39%		
			β -TCP smoker (11)	NID				25%		
			rhPDGF- β -TCP 1- to 2-wall defect (40)	NID				53%		
			rhPDGF- β -TCP 3-wall/Cir defect (42)	NID		4.8		4.3		
			β -TCP 1- to 2-wall defect (12)	NID				65%		
			β -TCP 3-wall/Cir defect (11)	NID				21%		
Nevins et al., 2013 ¹³⁵	12	Parallel	rhPDGF- β -TCP (43)	4.46	NS	3.80	NS	2.88 mm/60%	<0.001	
			β -TCP (45)	4.08		3.65		1.42 mm/33%		
			rhPDGF- β -TCP (29)	4.49		4.09		3.32 mm/68%		
			β -TCP (29)	3.80		3.31		1.81 mm/42%		
			rhPDGF- β -TCP (27)	4.57		4.31				
			β -TCP (28)	4.14		3.44				
			rhPDGF- β -TCP non-smoker	NID				2.85 mm/62%		
			rhPDGF- β -TCP smoker	NID				1.0 mm/27%		
			rhPDGF- β -TCP non-smoker	NID				3.60 mm/72%		
			rhPDGF- β -TCP smoker	NID				1.00 mm/25%		
Jayakumar et al., 2011 ¹⁶³	6	Parallel	rhPDGF- β -TCP (27)	4.3	<0.005	3.7	<0.005	3.7 mm/65.6%	<0.01	
			β -TCP (27)	3.2		2.8		2.8 mm/47.5%		
										LBG
										<0.004 % BF

Cir = circumferential; NS = not significant; LBG = linear bone growth; BF = bone fill.

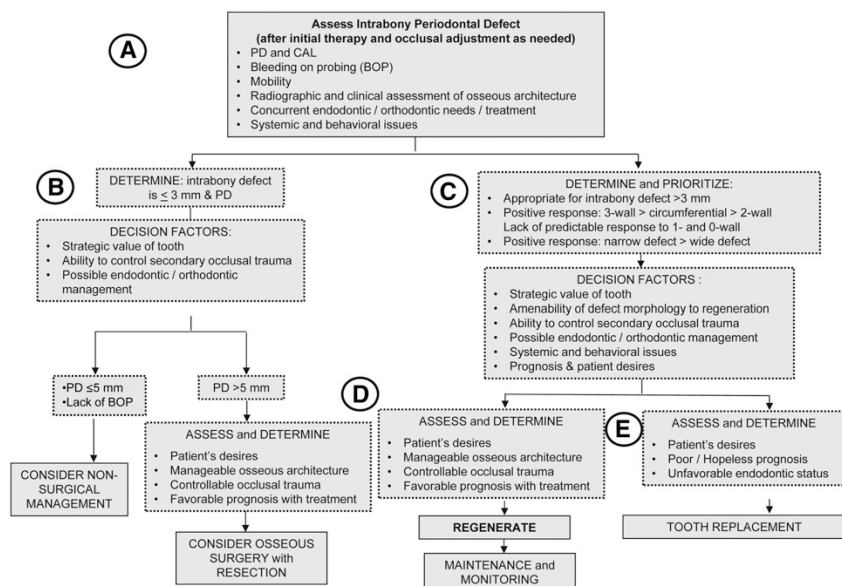


Figure 2. Decision tree for the management of intrabony defects. A/B/C/D/E are explained in paragraph “Summary With Decision Tree to Guide Clinicians in Their Patient Management.”

banked and non-porcine regenerative options. Historically, when DFDBA was the only regenerative approach, options, such as bioactive glass, β -TCP, and ceramics were reasonable alternatives.¹⁵ Although these grafting procedures healed by the formation of the long junctional epithelium, long-term clinical stability was possible.¹⁵ Now, these materials are used primarily as scaffolding agents to support regenerative approaches in wide/large intrabony defects.^{15,115,116,131,132}

Clinical outcomes for both GTR and conservative/minimally invasive procedures continue to demonstrate therapeutic value for the periodontal patient (Tables 2 and 3). The majority of GTR studies report 12-month clinical results,^{11,51,57,62,72-74,76-78,80-83,85} although 5- and 10-year results are now available (Table 2).^{57,67,76-85} These reports document maintainable and significantly reduced PD and gains in CAL compared with pretreatment levels. Conversely, because of the more recent introduction of minimally invasive/conservative flap procedures, very few long-term (>5 years) studies or comparisons with OFD are available.⁹¹ The great majority of articles present 6- to 12-month results, demonstrating statistically significant reductions in PD and gains in CAL (Table 2).^{40,52-56,58,75,87-90,92-98} However, Harrel et al.⁹¹ concluded that the therapeutic benefits of combining MIS and EMD at 12 months remained stable at 6 years (Table 2). Of note, REC values for conservative/minimally

invasive procedures tend to be lower than those reported for access flap surgery/GTR (Tables 2 and 3), suggesting that minimally invasive techniques are better suited for areas requiring preservation of esthetics. Nevertheless, it is important to consider that the presence of either a non-supportive defect anatomy (OR = 58.8) or thin-scalloped gingival biotype (OR = 76.9) was identified as a risk factor for REC on the midfacial aspect.⁸⁸ These findings have significant implications in the esthetic zone, in which minimizing REC is paramount.

Silvestri et al.³⁹ evaluated tooth survival outcomes up to 16 years after GTR. A 90% tooth survival rate was observed at 13 years, and post-surgical CAL gains were maintained at 82% for 11 years. Prognosis was negatively influenced by smoking and lack of oral hygiene maintenance. Indeed, results from a Kaplan-Meier analysis, correlating survival rate and smoking status over time, indicated that survival rates in smokers decreased at a faster rate beginning 5 years after surgery; log-rank testing showed that both smoking status and poor compliance with oral hygiene programs were significantly correlated with tooth loss.³⁹ Cortellini and Tonetti⁵⁰ retrospectively evaluated tooth survival after GTR treatment up to 16 years and concluded that tooth retention and clinical improvements can be maintained long term in most patients. Of note, 96% of patients exhibited tooth survival >10 years, with smokers contributing the most lost teeth. Consistent with the latter finding, the probability of losing ≥ 2 mm of regenerated CAL was also shown to be significantly higher in smokers than in non-smokers.⁵⁰

DISCUSSION

The goal of this systematic review is to update research findings since the last consensus reviews on the efficacy of bone replacement grafts and GTR.^{15,16} Focus was on determinants for regenerative success, new approaches for periodontal regeneration of intrabony defects, and the relationship of periodontal regeneration to endodontic or orthodontic therapy. These findings were presented above. To bring clinical relevance to this body of information, clinical

scenarios are addressed based on the information and are reviewed below.

Clinical Scenario 1: What New Regenerative Approaches Are There for Regeneration of Intrabony Defects?

In this review, the use of biologics in the form of EMD and rhPDGF-BB + β -TCP can also be added to the list of available periodontal regenerative approaches. The overall conclusion is that a beneficial result may be seen as early as 6 months, but the maximal regenerative results are not achieved until 1 or 2 years later. Compared with OFD, EMD appears to support greater improvements in both hard (defect fill) and soft tissue parameters (CAL and PD), whereas rhPDGF-BB + β -TCP may support greater improvements with defect fill. The volume of bone fill for both of these biologics is comparable with those associated with DFDBA and GTR approaches. Although there is proof of principle for the use of laser as a regenerative approach,³⁰ there is an absence of data available to define the predictability, frequency, and level of clinical improvement that can be achieved with this approach. Minimally invasive approaches, with or without the addition of biomaterials, represent viable techniques in the treatment of intrabony defects. These require microsurgical instruments and magnification to perform accurately. Studies indicate lower REC values compared with access flap/GTR approaches.

Clinical Scenario 2: What Level of Evidence Addresses the Decision When Selecting the Most Appropriate Surgical Approach for Regeneration of an Intrabony Defect?

The goal of evidence-based dentistry is to help practitioners provide their patients with optimal care.¹⁸¹ This concept is based on integrating sound research evidence with personal clinical expertise and patient values to determine the best course of treatment. Although inclusion of studies evaluated included only those materials that fulfill the criteria of histologic evidence of periodontal regeneration, it should be appreciated that this definition is problematic and becoming more difficult to meet for ethical reasons. Furthermore, although one of the inclusion criteria was based on histologic evidence of periodontal regeneration, the treatment decision is never based on histology but rather on clinical determinants (as outlined in Fig. 2) and long-term stability (≥ 3 years). The latter is difficult to achieve because of the limited number of study participants included in most of these studies. Nevertheless, clinical evidence substantiates that periodontal regeneration of intrabony defects is possible with the use of autogenous

bone, DFDBA, GTR, EMD, and rhPDGF-BB + β -TCP. Furthermore, this review and previous consensus reports substantiate that these approaches support comparable improvements in clinical parameters and bone fill.^{15,16} Given the research evidence, the selection of a regenerative approach is dependent on the clinical expertise and experience of the clinician and the patient's desires. Although there are justifiable reasons for strategic extraction,¹⁸² current evidence demonstrates that long-term stable results are achievable with periodontal regeneration. The ability to delay extraction by gaining more time through periodontal regeneration should always be considered as an option. This gained time may allow for advances in implant dentistry, such as the following: 1) newer technologies to enhance osseointegration; 2) more predictable treatment strategies for peri-implantitis; and 3) improved methodology to address increasing esthetic and functional demands of implant dentistry. Implant dentistry is rapidly changing and improving; as such, prolonging tooth survival through regeneration appears to be a defensible and prudent consideration.

Clinical Scenario 3: What Are the General Principles of a Good Regenerative Approach?

Regenerative therapy represents a proven method to improve clinical parameters, periodontal prognosis, and tooth retention. Achieving therapeutic goals in periodontal regeneration necessitates the incorporation of sound clinical judgment and emphasis on control of patient-centered variables both preoperatively and postoperatively. Surgical experience and clinician skill should align with techniques that maximize the biologic potential of the surgical site, including space maintenance and wound stabilization. Tooth stabilization appears to benefit periodontal regenerative outcomes, whereas endodontically treated teeth respond in a similar manner as vital teeth in periodontal regenerative outcomes. Conservative/minimally invasive techniques appear to result in less REC postoperatively. These approaches may be better suited for esthetically sensitive areas, although long-term studies have yet to confirm the short-term (1-year) outcomes.

Summary With Decision Tree to Guide Clinicians in Their Patient Management

A decision tree is provided to show an overview of clinical determinants that should be considered for the best-practice management of intrabony defects (Fig. 2). As with any therapeutic procedure, consideration must be given to a patient's desires and expectations, as well as behavioral and systemic issues. This along with the clinical determinants will dictate whether therapy should be performed for

posterior teeth (Fig. 2A). Exceptions to this decision tree may be in the maxillary anterior esthetic zone in which maintenance versus strategic extraction may need to be considered. For posterior teeth, if the intrabony defect is narrow and ≤ 3 mm in open PD, conventional osseous surgery may be most appropriate and predictable for posterior teeth (Fig. 2B). Debridement of the narrow defect is often adequate to achieve clinical improvement, whereas ostectomy can be performed on the broader crestal aspect of the defect. Should the defect be broad and >3 mm in open PD, one should consider periodontal regeneration (Fig. 2C). Assessment of defect morphology and the patient's clinical and systemic-behavioral determinants is critical for regenerative success. Consideration of this in addition to the patient's desires will define the selection of the regenerative approach (Fig. 2D). Although the clinician and the patient together decide on the appropriate material, the management of the defect is based more on the osseous architecture. Narrow 3-wall defects are easily managed by a variety of regenerative approaches, whereas broad, deep 2-wall defects may require combination therapy that provides scaffolding support to prevent tissue collapse into the defect. Long-term stability is possible, but the individual outcome is influenced by smoking and compliance with periodontal maintenance and monitoring. Should patient-related or clinical determinants be unfavorable for periodontal regeneration, then consideration, if appropriate, might be given to strategic extraction and placement of an implant-supported prosthesis (Fig. 2E).

REVIEWERS' CONCLUSIONS

The reviewers' conclusions are the following: 1) The use of biologics (EMD and rhPDGF-BB + β -TCP) generally increase bone fill and improve CAL and reduce PD compared with OFD procedures in the treatment of intrabony defects. These improvements are comparable with those found with DFDBA and GTR regenerative approaches. 2) Histologic evidence of regeneration has been demonstrated with laser therapy, but there are no data that define the clinical effectiveness and predictability of this approach. 3) Clinical outcomes will be most significantly influenced by patient behaviors, surgical approach, and much less by tooth and site characteristics. 4) Long-term studies indicate that the clinical results achieved with regenerative therapy are maintainable up to 10 years, even in severely compromised teeth. Regenerative therapy is capable of improving tooth prognosis.

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