



*Corresponding author: Amit Arvind Agrawal, MDS, M Phil, MGVS KBH Dental
College and Hospital, Nashik, Maharashtra, India, E-mail:



Figure 4: Preparation of recipient site to receive free gingival autograft.

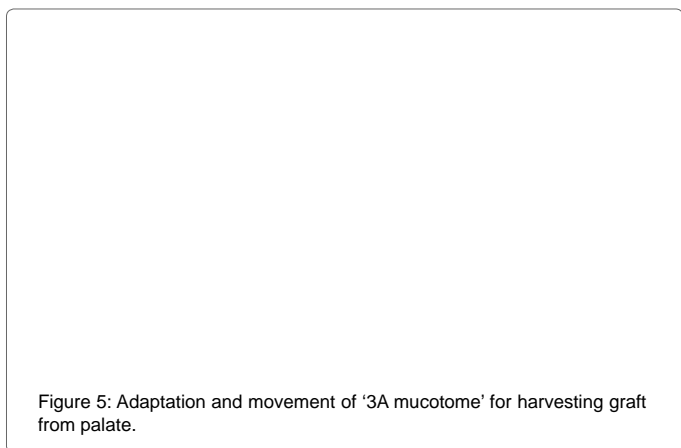
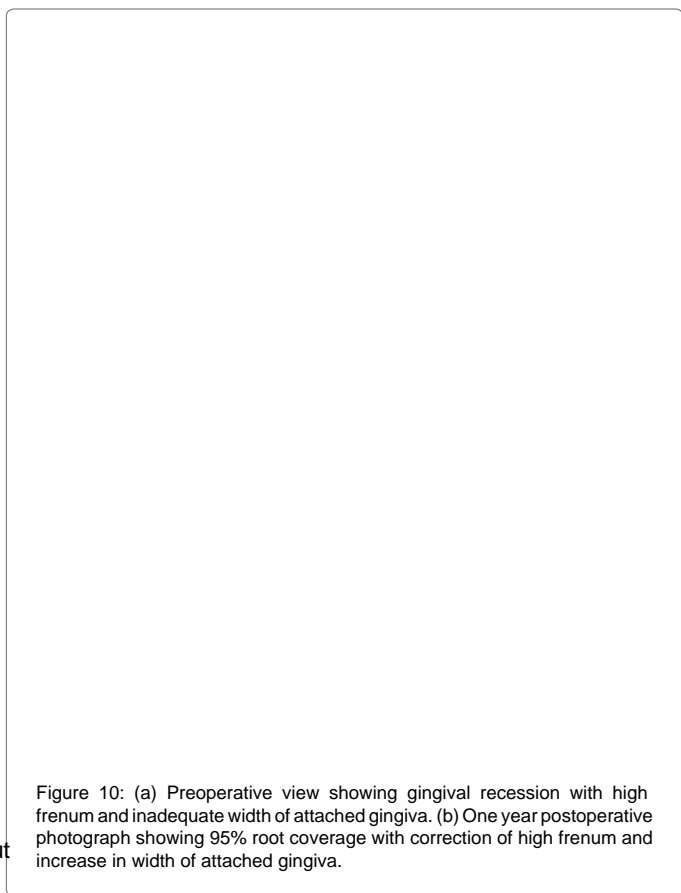
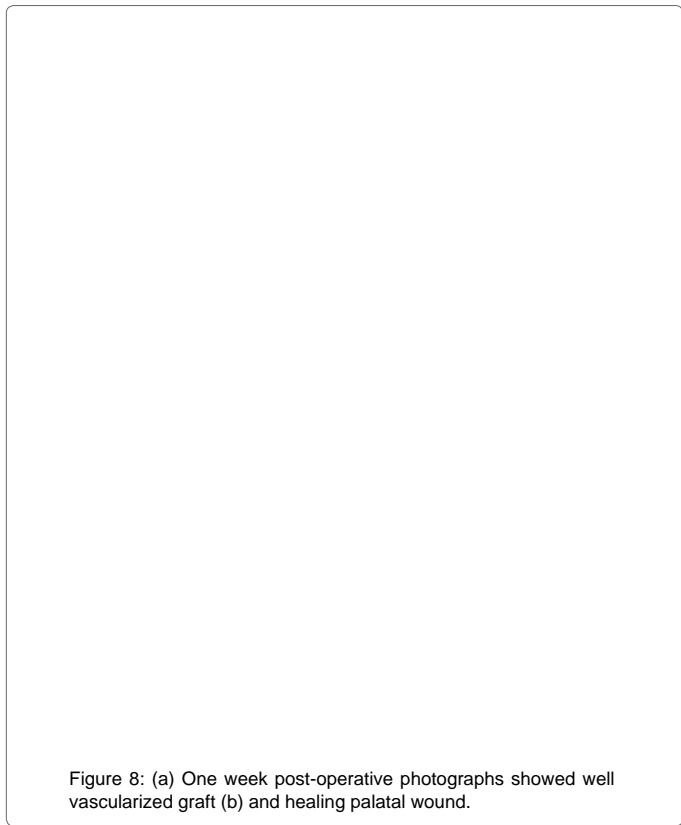
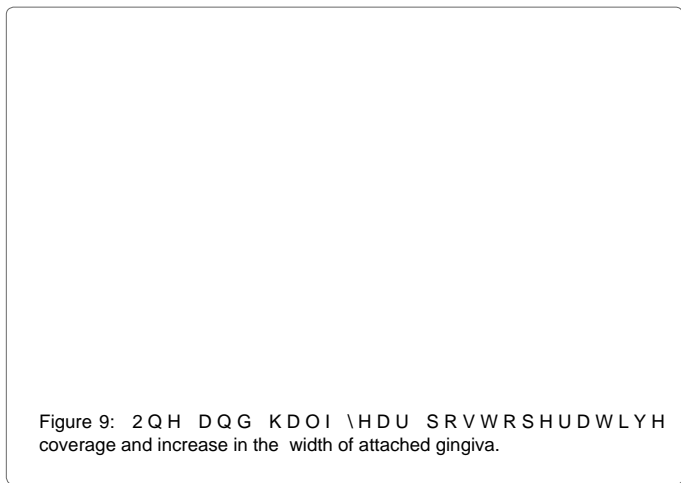
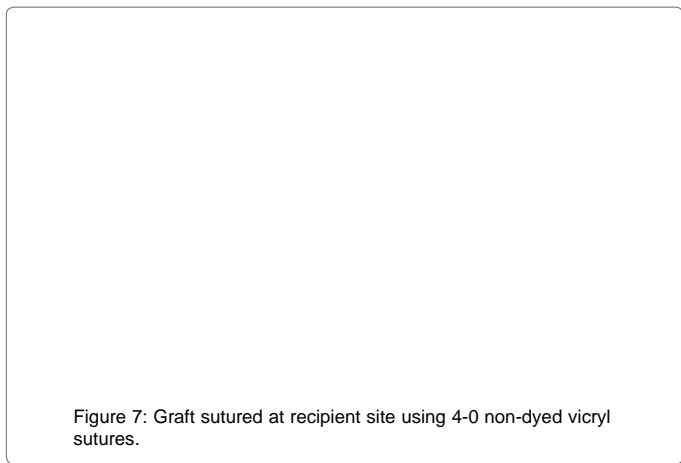


Figure 5: Adaptation and movement of '3A mucotome' for harvesting graft from palate.

while moving through the tissues. Another way to judge the thickness is by the faint grayish color of the blade observed beneath the tissue. Smooth pass of the razor blade through tissue produces graft of uniform thickness with smooth cut undersurface. At times a slight jiggling/see-saw movement may be required for smooth movement of the blade. Borders of graft have long internal bevel due to curvature of blade. The better the blade curvature adapted to the curvature of the palate, the shallower will be the beveled margin. The edges can be left beveled or if desired can be trimmed with a scissor to obtain a butt joint. In case a butt joint is desired, the size of the graft should be slightly larger than the template size. Trimming the margins of graft would provide a butt joint without compromising the required graft size (Figure 6).

Grafts obtained with thick areas, uneven surfaces or with fatty or glandular tissues attached can be corrected easily using the same instrument to trim the undersurface of the graft. For this, one end of the graft is held tightly with a tissue forceps and cutting edge of blade of mucotome is placed on raw surface and moved away from tissue forceps to other end aiming to remove the excess unwanted tissues. Failure to remove this fat and glandular tissue will result in the graft that is totally movable when probed. The fat and glandular tissues inhibit the graft take by reducing plasmatic diffusion.

Citric acid root conditioning prior to FGG coverage of denuded roots may increase the likelihood of reattachment, but controlled studies to determine the value of citric acid conditioning are needed.



d. Procured grafts are of relatively uniform thickness and without macrolacerations.

e. The graft margins have shallow bevels which can be used as it is or trimmed to obtain butt margins.

intermediate thickness (0.55 mm) showed excellent clinical healing of the donor and recipient site. However, Borghetti and Gardella [12] used thick gingival grafts (1.8 mm) to treat gingival recession. They obtained 85.2% root coverage. Thick grafts yield a higher percentage of root coverage than thin grafts. Even, Holbrook and Ochsenbein [13] modified Miller's technique. They did not use citric acid and held the thickness of their grafts to about 1.5 mm and got good results. A general belief is that thin, or intermediate-thickness grafts (.5-.75 mm) are ideal for increasing the zone of keratinized attached gingiva and undergo minimal primary contraction because of the amount of elastic