

*In The Name of God*



# PERIODONTAL FLAPS



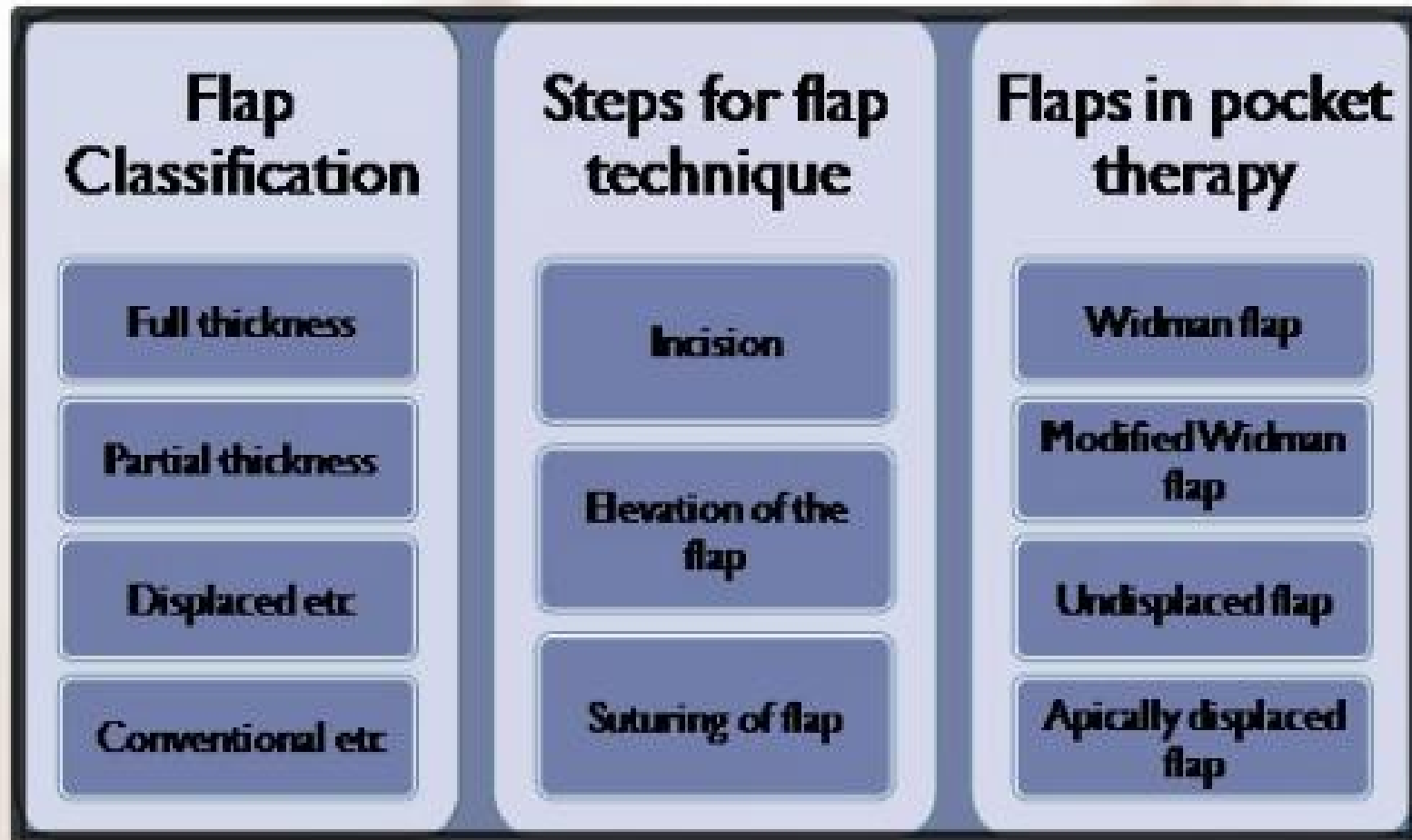
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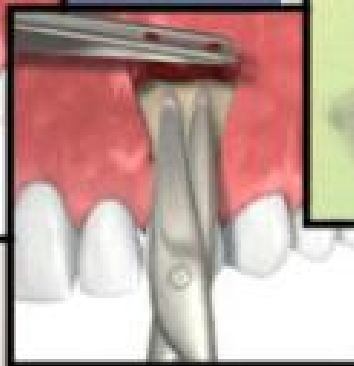
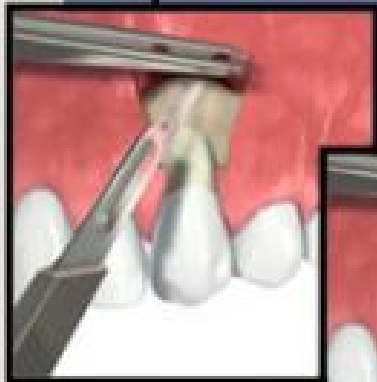
# Introduction to Flap Techniques



# Classification of Flaps

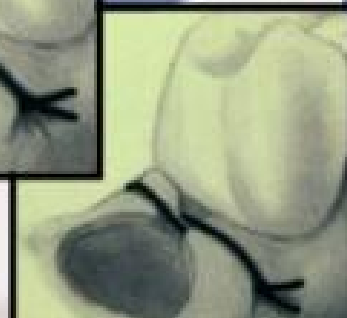
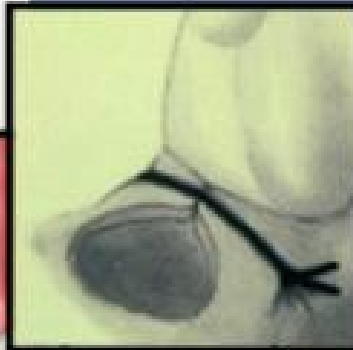
## Bone exposure after flap reflection

- full-thickness flaps
- partial-thickness



## Placement of flap after surgery

- non-displaced flaps
- displaced flaps



## Management of papilla

- conventional flap (split the papilla)
- papilla preservation flap







• Full thickness



• Partial thickness



• Combined



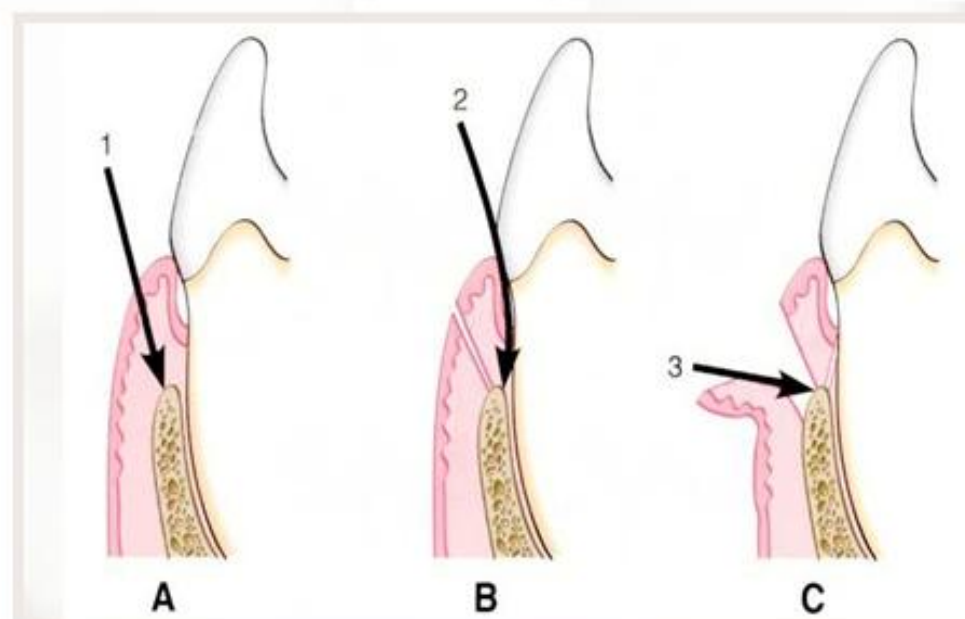
# Incisions

Three incisions are necessary in horizontal direction

**Internal bevel incision**

**Crevicular incision**

**Interdental incision**



# INCISIONS

## •Vertical Incisions

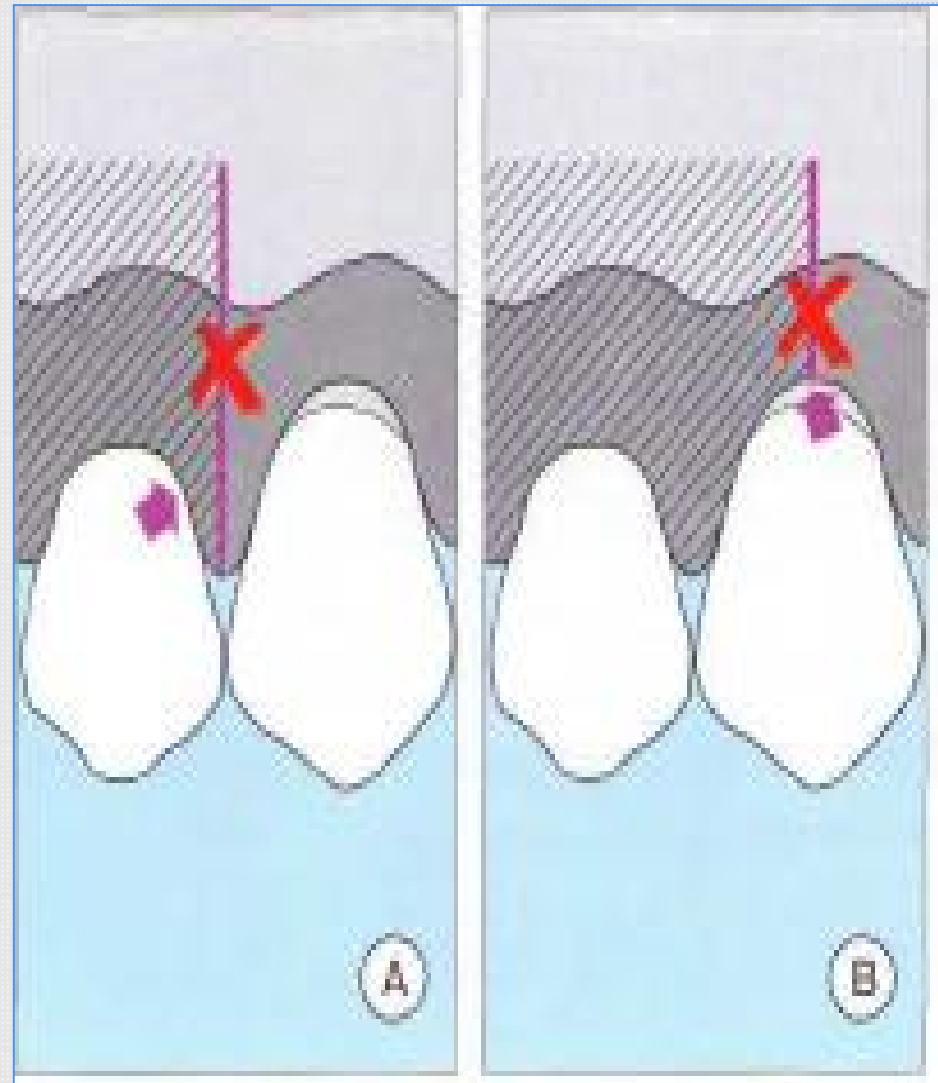
- Incisions should be made **at the line angles of a tooth** either to include the papilla in the flap or to avoid it completely or incising directly over a radicular surface.
- vertical incisions in the **lingual and palatal** areas are avoided.
- Facial vertical incisions should not be made in the center of an interdental papilla or over the radicular surface of a tooth.



## Vertical sections and relaxing sections

### Unfavorable location:

- A. If the cut goes through the papilla, there is risk of recession and loss of interdental papilla.
- B. The middle section is undesirable in the presence of vestibular pocket, as it increases the probability of gum recession.

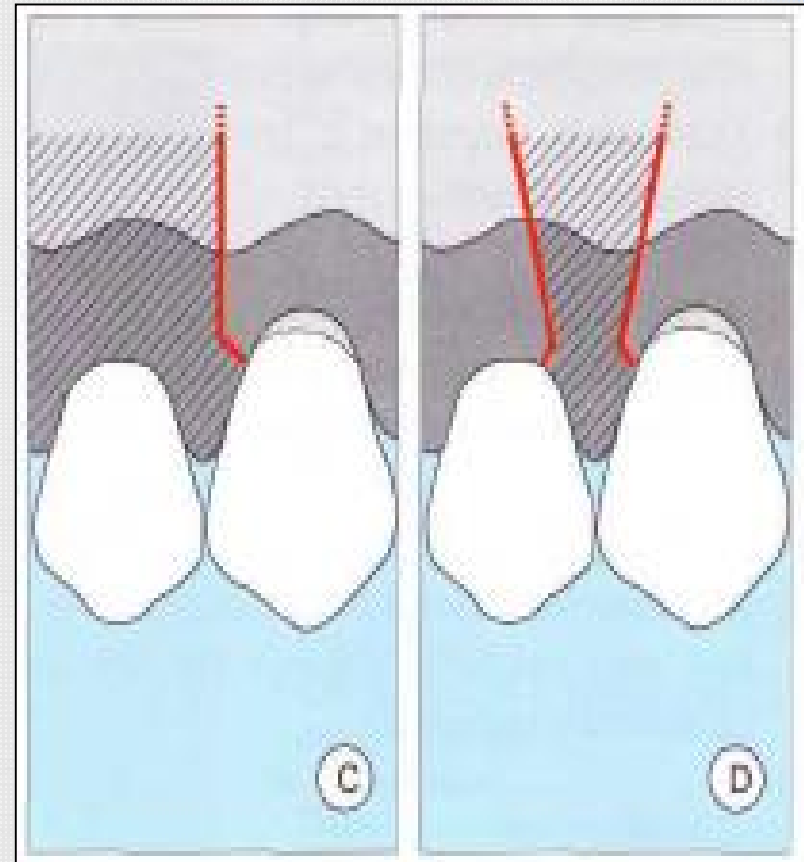




The favorable location:

C. The section at the side of midline does not leads to significant shrinkage and is better for healing.

D. For the treatment of local defects it is recommended a triangular flap, to unfold it , two paramedial sections is conducted.



# Indications for periodontal surgery

- ✓ Areas with irregular bony contours or deep craters.
- ✓ Pockets on teeth in which a complete removal of root irritants is not considered clinically possible. (molars).
- ✓ In cases of grade II or III furcation involvement.
- ✓ Infrabony pockets in distal areas of last molars.
- ✓ Persistent inflammation in areas with moderate to deep pockets may require a surgical approach.



# Contraindications

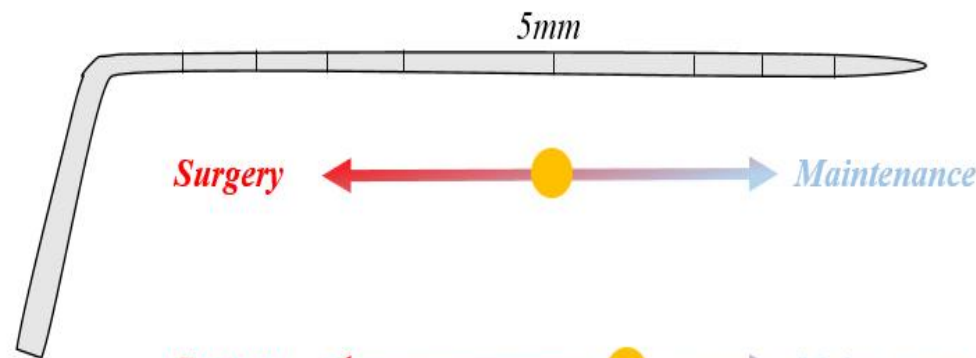
- Patients who do not exhibit good plaque control.
- Uncontrolled or progressive systemic disease (uncontrolled diabetics, leukemia ect.).
- Patients taking large doses of corticosteroids may have reduced resistance to stress associated with surgery ..
- Patients with imminent terminal disease who are debilitated are not candidates for surgery.

# The advantages of surgical therapy

- ∞ Improved visualization of the root surface;
- ∞ More accurate determination of prognosis;
- ∞ Improved pocket reduction or elimination;
- ∞ Improved regeneration of lost periodontal structures;
- ∞ An improved environment for restorative dentistry;
- ∞ Improved access for oral hygiene and supportive periodontal treatment.



## Pocket Elimination Versus Pocket Maintenance



*Surgery* ← ● → *Maintenance*

Presence of root fissures, root concavities, furcations, and defective margins of dental restorations in the subgingival area.

*Surgery* ← ● → *Maintenance*

BOP persists and symptoms are not resolved by repeated subgingival instrumentation

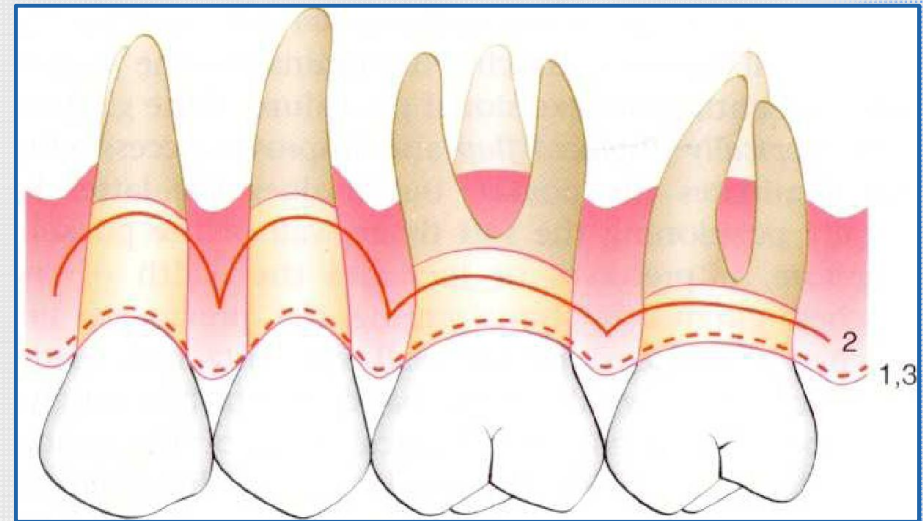
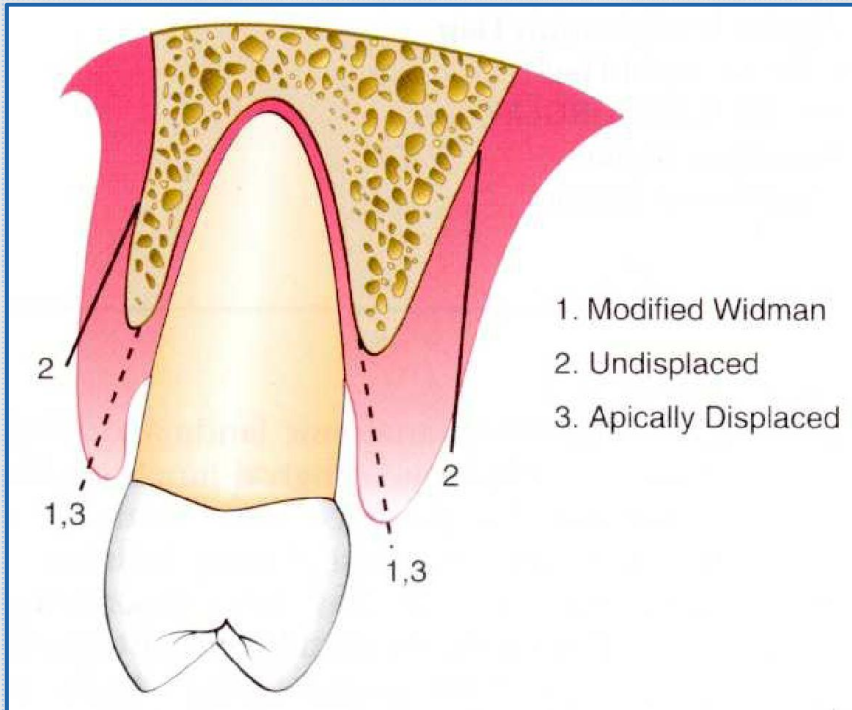
*Surgery* ← ● → *Maintenance*

proper debridement can be accomplished even in deeper pockets

Badersten 1981; Lindhe 1982a

*Surgery* ← ● → *Maintenance*

*Aesthetic regions*



## The Flap Techniques for Pocket Therapy

Modified  
Widman  
technique



Undisplaced  
technique



Apically  
displaced flap



## Use of flaps in Pocket Therapy

- ▶ Increase accessibility to root deposits
- ▶ Eliminate or reduce pocket depth by resection of pocket wall
- ▶ Expose the area to perform regenerative methods



### Modified Widman

- Exposing root surface for instrumentation & pocket lining
- Do not reduce pocket depth



### Undisplaced flap

- Improved accessibility
- Removes pocket wall
- Reducing or eliminating pocket
- Excision procedure



### Apically displaced

- Apically position the soft tissue wall to eliminate pocket
- Preserves or inc width of attached gingiva
- Transform keratinized pocket wall to attached tissue



# MODIFIED WIDMAN FLAP

- Does not attempt to reduce pocket depth.
- Also recognized as the **open flap curettage** technique
- The modified Widman flap does not intend to remove the pocket wall, but it does eliminate the pocket lining.
- Offers the possibility of establishing an intimate postoperative adaptation of healthy collagenous connective tissue to tooth surfaces'.
- Provides access for adequate instrumentation of the root surfaces and immediate closure of the area.



## Modified Widman technique

- **Step 1:** The initial incision is an internal bevel incision to the alveolar crest starting 0.5 to 1 mm away from the gingival margin. Scalloping follows the gingival margin.
- **Step 2:** gingiva is reflected with a periosteal elevator.
- **Step 3:** A crevicular incision
- **Step 4:** After the flap is reflected, a third incision is made in the interdental spaces
- **Step 5:** Tissue tags and granulation tissue are removed with a curette + SRP.
- **Step 6:** Bone architecture is not corrected except if it prevents good tissue adaptation to the necks of the teeth.
- **Step 7:** Interrupted direct sutures are placed in each interdental space.







# UNDISPLACED FLAP

- Currently, the undisplaced flap may be the **most frequently performed** type of periodontal surgery.
- It differs from the modified Widman flap in that the soft tissue pocket wall is removed with the initial incision; thus it may be considered an "internal bevel gingivectomy."
- the clinician should determine that enough attached gingiva will remain after removal of the pocket wall.



# Undisplaced Flap technique

- **Step 1:** The pockets are measured with the periodontal probe, and a bleeding point is produced on the outer surface of the gingiva to mark the pocket bottom.
- **Step 2:** The initial, or internal bevel, incision is made after the scalloping of the bleeding marks on the gingiva. The incision is usually carried to a point apical to the alveolar crest, depending on the thickness of the tissue.
- **Step 3:** The second, or crevicular, incision.
- **Step 4:** The flap is reflected with a periosteal elevator.
- **Step 5:** The third, or interdental, incision is made with an interdental knife.
- ....
- **Step 9:** A continuous sling suture is used to secure the facial and the lingual or palatal flaps.

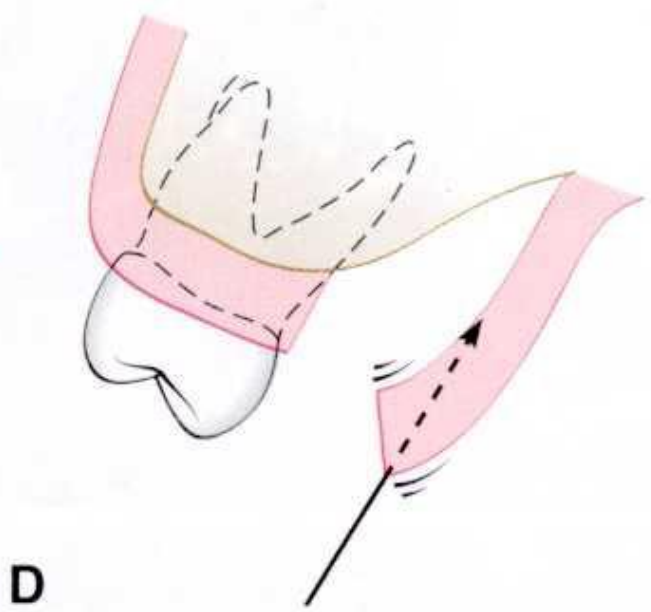
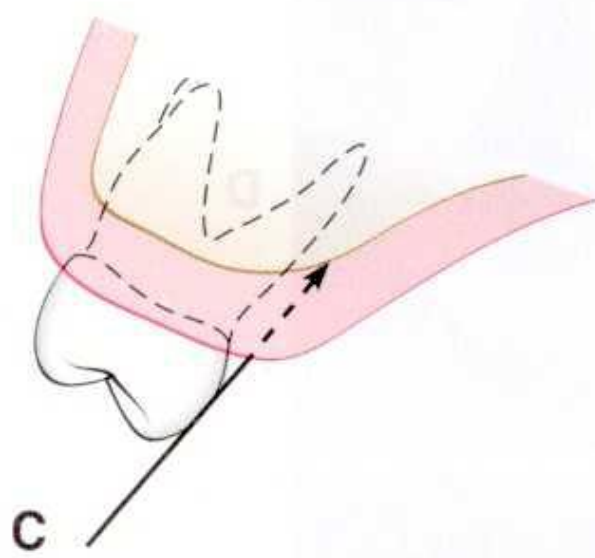
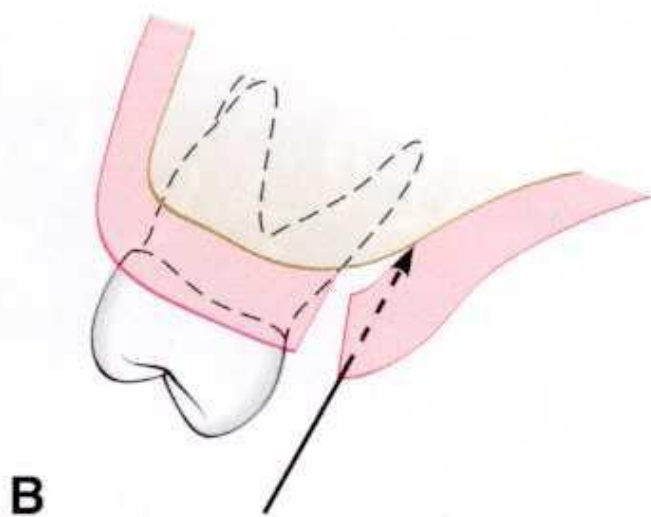
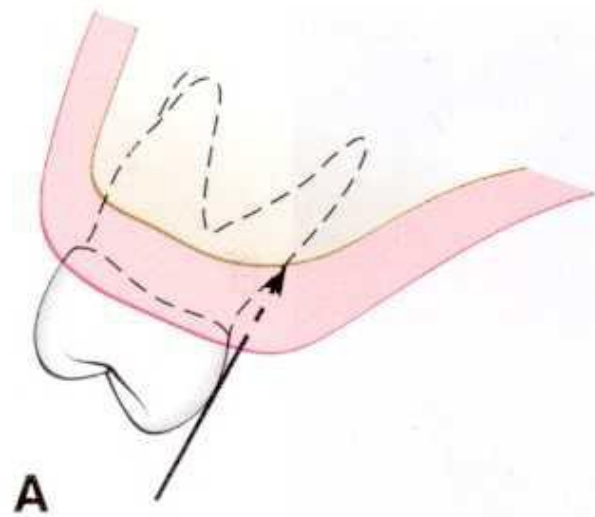






# Palatal Flap

- the palatal tissue cannot be apically displaced, and a partial-thickness (split-thickness) flap cannot be accomplished.
- The initial incision for the palatal flap should allow the flap, when sutured, to be precisely adapted at the root-bone junction.
- If the tissue is thick, a horizontal gingivectomy incision may be made, followed by an internal bevel incision that starts at the edge of this incision.
- It is sometimes necessary to thin the palatal flap after it has been reflected.





# APICALLY DISPLACED FLAP

The apically displaced flap technique can be used for:

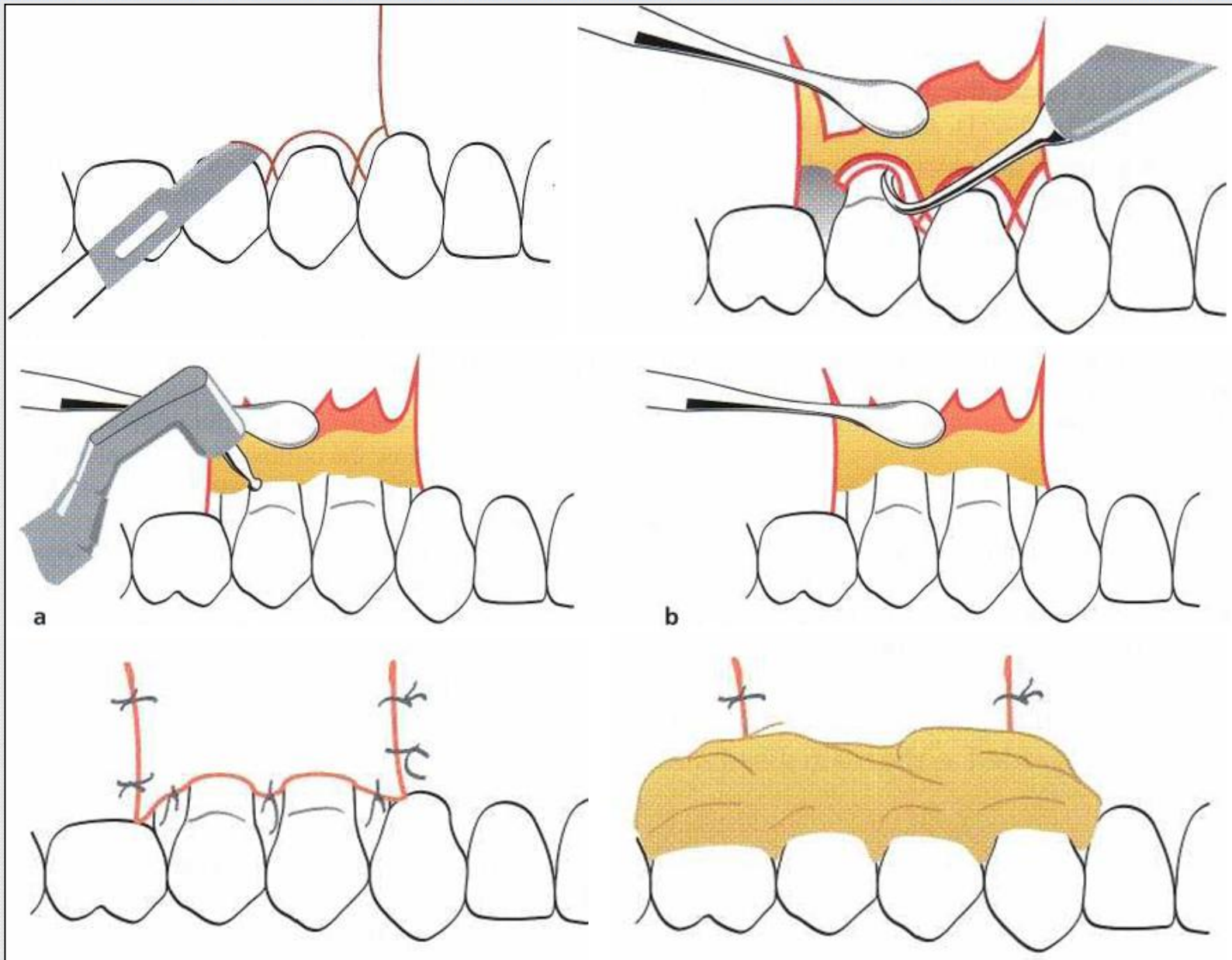
- (1) pocket eradication; and/or
- (2) widening the zone of attached gingiva.

IT can be a full-thickness (mucoperiosteal) or  
a split-thickness (mucosal) flap.

## Apically Displaced flap

- **Step 1:** An internal bevel incision is made. To preserve keratinized and attached gingiva it should be no more than about 1 mm.
- It is also not necessary to accentuate the scallop interdentally because the flap is displaced apically and not placed interdentally.
- **Step 2:** Crevicular incisions.
- **Step 3:** Vertical incisions are made extending beyond the MGJ.
- **Step 4:** removal of all granulation tissue, scaling and root planing, and osseous surgery.
- **Step 5:** If a full-thickness flap was performed, a slingsuture and the periodontal dressing can avoid its movement in a coronal direction. A partial-thickness flap is sutured to the periosteum using a direct loop suture or a combination of loop and anchor suture.





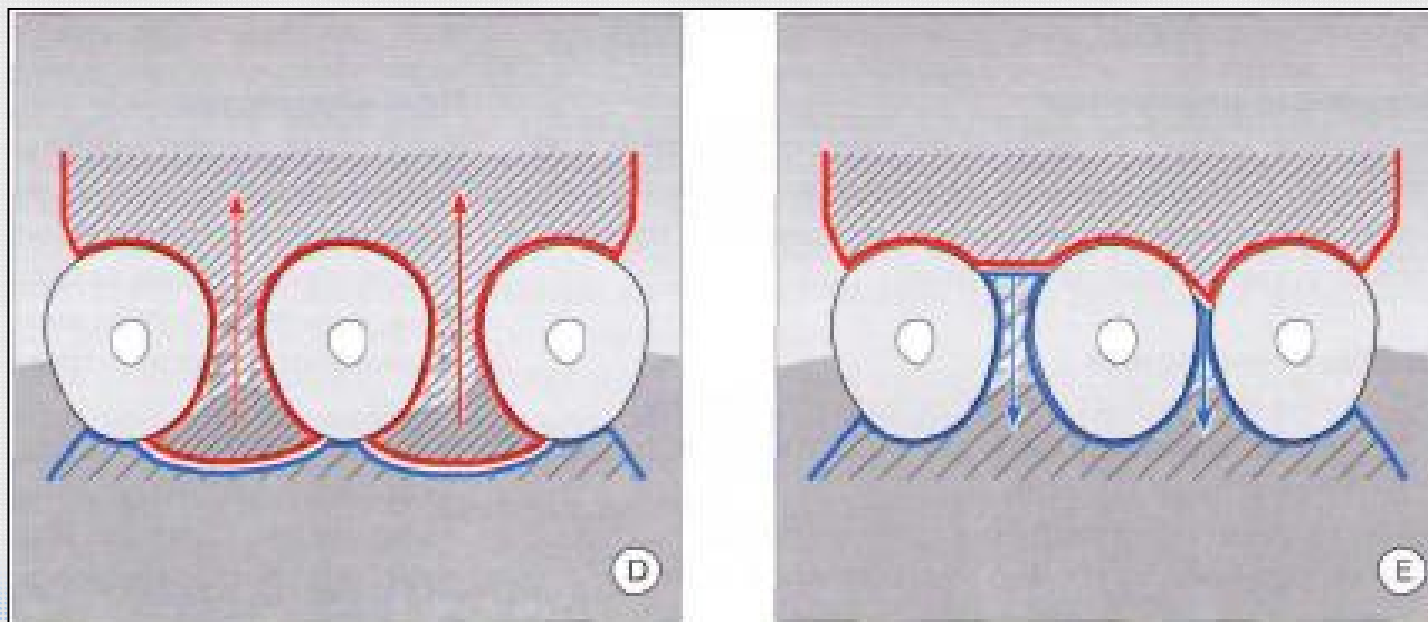
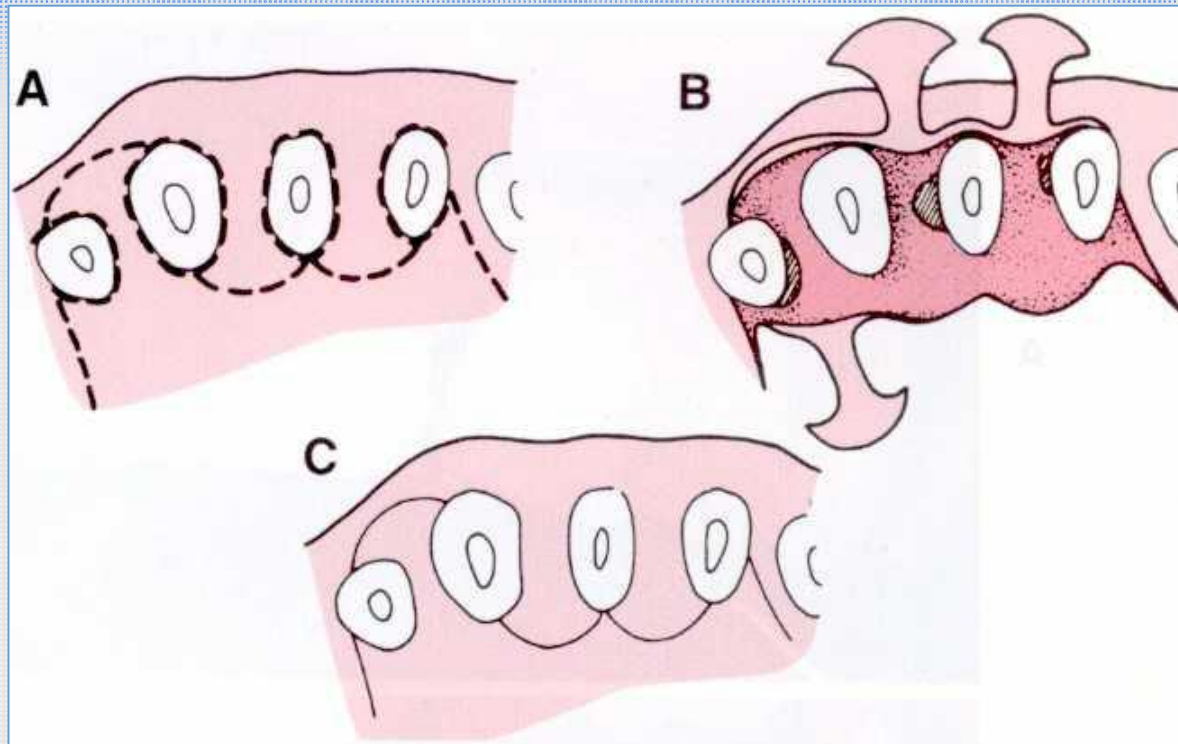






# FLAPS FOR RECONSTRUCTIVE SURGERY

- **Papilla Preservation Flap**
- *Step 1: A crevicular incision with no incisions across the interdental papilla.*
- *Step 2: The preserved papilla can be incorporated into the facial or lingual/palatal flap, although it is most often integrated into the facial flap.*
- *Step 3: An Orban knife is then introduced into this incision to sever half to two-thirds the base of the interdental papilla.*

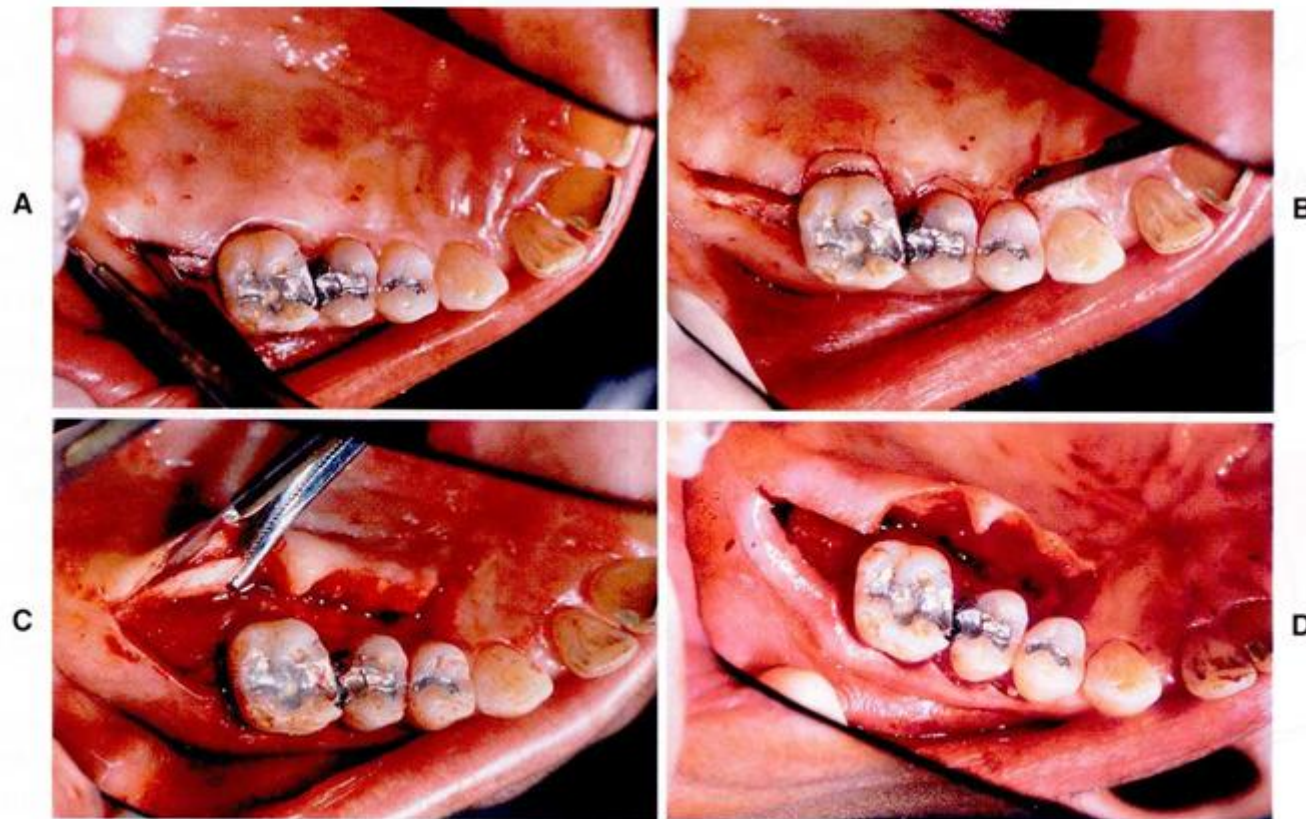
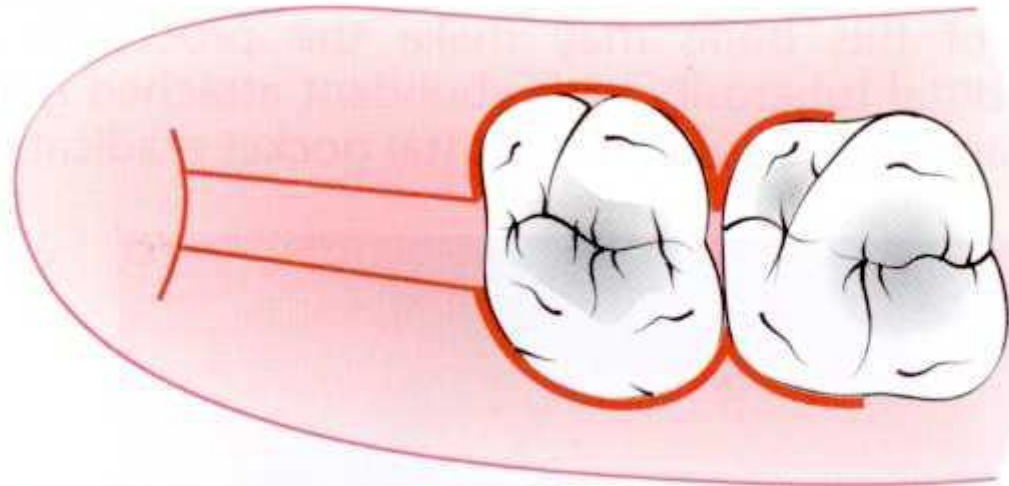




# DISTAL MOLAR SURGERY

- **Maxillary Molars**
- usually simpler than the treatment of a similar lesion on the mandibular arch because the tuberosity presents a greater amount of fibrous attached gingiva.
- **T e c h n i q u e .** Two parallel incisions, beginning at the distal portion of the tooth and extending to the MGJ distal to the tuberosity.
- The faciolingual distance between these two incisions depends on the **depth of the pocket** and the **amount of fibrous tissue** involved.

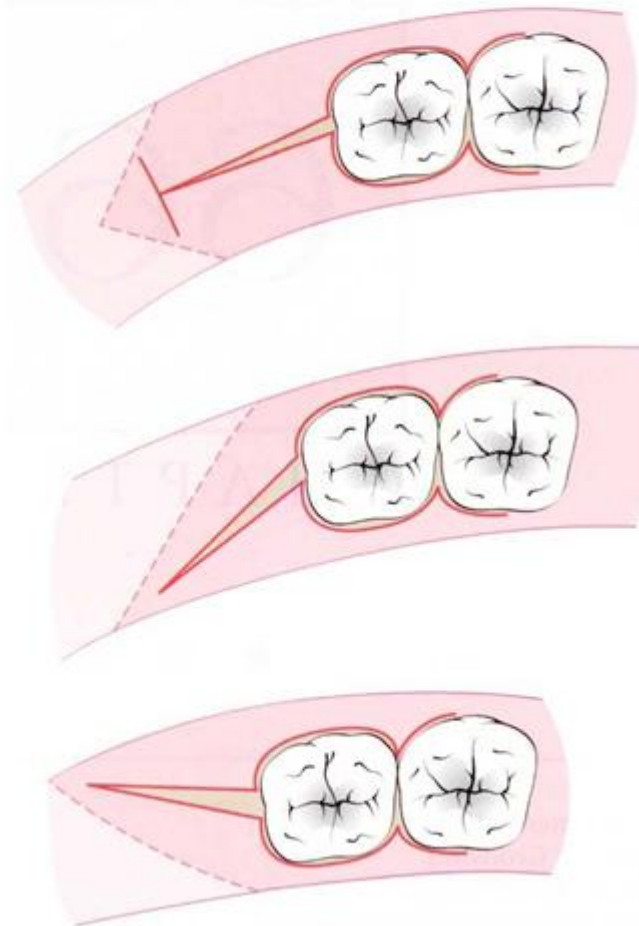






# DISTAL MOLAR SURGERY

- **Mandibular Molars:**
- The **retromolar pad** area does not usually present as much fibrous attached gingiva. The keratinized gingiva, if present, may not be found directly distal to the molar.
- The incisions could be directed distolingually or distotacially, depending on which area has more attached gingiva.



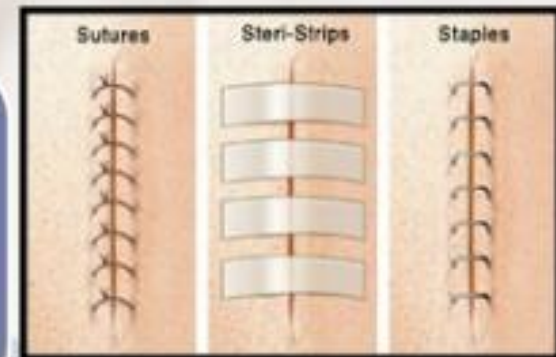
# Suturing

- ▶ Sutures are meant to maintain the flap in the desired position until healing has progressed to the point where sutures are no longer needed.



**Resorbable**

**Nonresorbable**



**Braided**

**monofilament**





# Suturing techniques for flap surgery



# Sutures

**Horizontal Mattress Suture:** for the interproximal areas of diastemata or for wide interdental spaces to adapt the interproximal papilla properly against the bone.

**Continuous , Independent Sling Suture:** The flaps are tied to the teeth and not to each other.

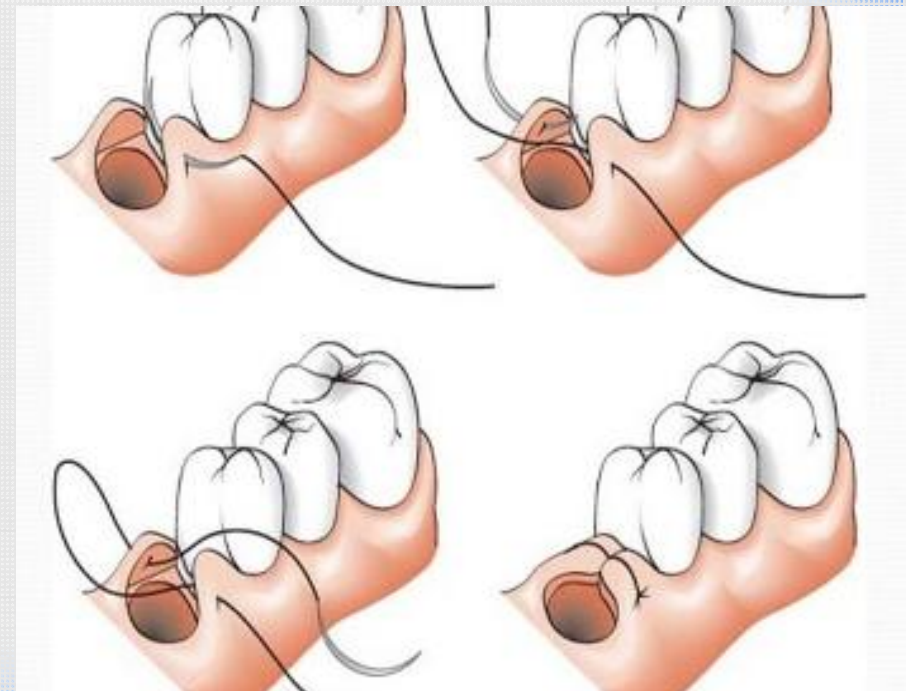
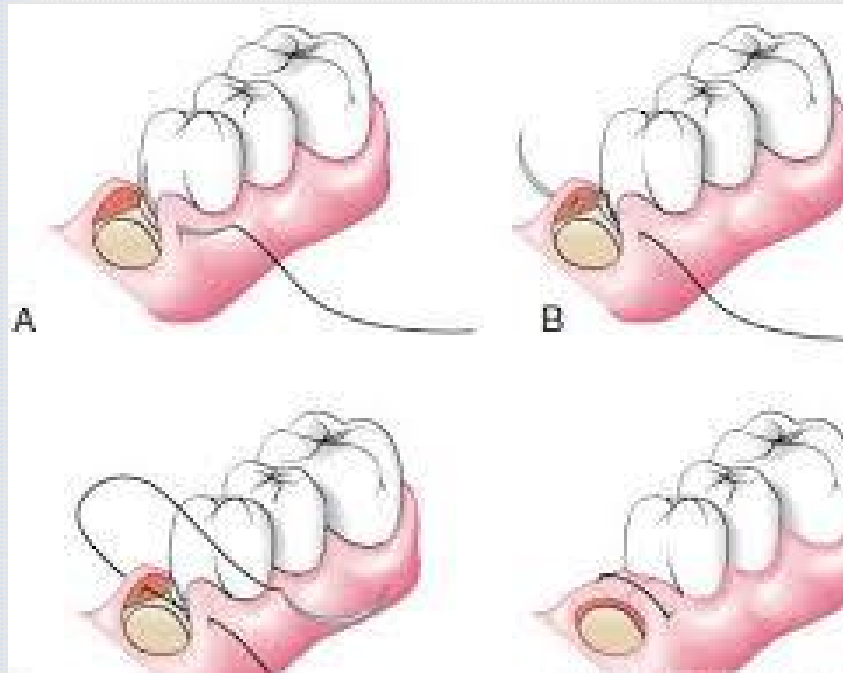
**Anchor Suture:** The closing of a flap mesial or distal to a tooth, as in the mesial or distal wedge procedures.

**Closed Anchor Suture**

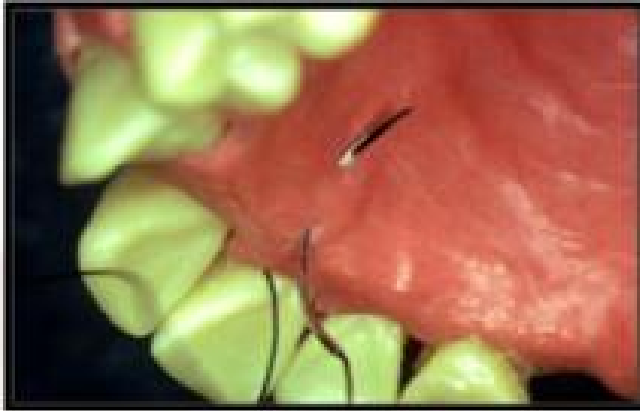
**Periosteal Suture:** hold in place apically displaced partial-thickness flaps.



# Interrupted sutures



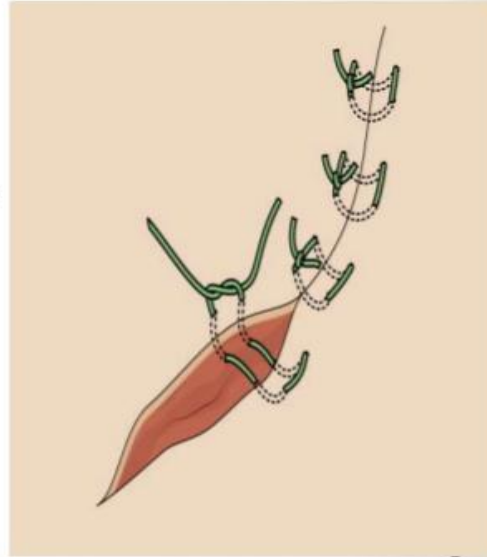
# Mattress sutures





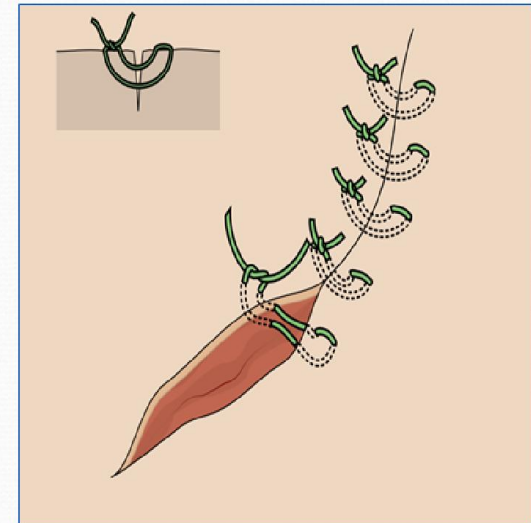
# Horizontal Mattress Suture

- The strongest type of sutures, very far away (8 mm from the edge)
- Indications: large distances between tissues, bone grafts and implants, and closure of extraction socket.
- Advantages: Good for hemostasis, less prominent scarring.
- Disadvantages: Leave a gap between flaps and it is difficult to remove.



# Vertical Mattress Suture

- Vertical Mattress is a suture technique most commonly used in anatomic locations which tend to evert, such as the posterior aspect of the neck, deeper wounds





# Continuous sling suture

