

## **ER:YAG LASER GINGIVAL MELANIN DEPIGMENTATION - 2 YEARS FOLLOW UP CASE REPORT**

**Yaneva B.\***

*Medical University-Plovdiv, Faculty of Dental Medicine, Department of Periodontology and oral diseases ~ Plovdiv ~ Bulgaria*

### **Introduction:**

Gingival hyperpigmentation can be physiological in cases with dark patients but causes esthetic problems to those with “gummy smile”.

Clinical case: A 38- years old women in good general health from Arab origin came for esthetic reason because of melanin hyperpigmentation of the attached gingiva in the frontal area of the upper and lower arch. Dummet’s oral pigmentation index (DOPI) revealed scores 2,25- heavy pigmentation for the upper and 3- heavy pigmentation for the lower arch.

### **Aims:**

The aim of the present case report was to examine the effectiveness of the Er:YAG laser in gingival melanin depigmentation.

### **Methods:**

The pigmentation was managed with Er:YAG laser (2940 nm) with the following energy settings: 200 mJ, 15 Hz, 4 water spray level under local anesthesia. Treatment went uneventful without excessive bleeding. The healing process was without bleeding, pain, swelling or any discomfort to the patient.

### **Results:**

The follow-up at 6 months showed no recurrence - DOPI for both arches 0. The follow-up at 2 years showed again gingival discoloration significantly lower than the initial pretreatment one - DOPI for upper arch 1 and for the lower- 1,75. Second Er: YAG laser depigmentation was performed.

### **Conclusions:**

Er:YAG laser is safe and effective treatment modality for gingival depigmentation without side effects. In this particular clinical case the improvement of the color remains for 2 years.