Surgical crown lengthening for enhanced aesthetic and clinical success

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An adequate understanding of the relationship between periodontal tissues and restorative/prosthetic dentistry is paramount to ensure adequate form, function, aesthetics and comfort of the dentition. Cases of caries extending apical to the gingival margin, tooth fractures, endodontic or post perforations, some cases of cervical resorption, teeth with inadequate structure for crown retention and aesthetic dilemmas such as an excess amount of gingiva, asymmetrical gingival margins and hyperplastic tissue, may all need surgical crown lengthening. This lecture presents a rational approach to crown-lengthening surgery that can be used to enhance the restorative/prosthetic clinical outcome.