

4. PET: an insight into the current prosthodontic strategy for ridge preservation in the esthetic zone

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Buccopalatal collapse of the post-extraction ridge is a significant challenge in restorative and implant dentistry, particularly in the esthetic zone. Many ridge preservation techniques have been proposed in literature, most of which are cost intensive and technique sensitive. A slightly different concept which is minimally invasive and cost effective has been proposed. In this concept there is a paradigm shift from extract and augment towards partially retaining the tooth root preserving the ridge and preventing buccopalatal collapse. It includes root submergence, socket and pontic shield techniques. These techniques may be collectively termed as pet (partial extraction therapies), a term newly introduced into literature and clinical environment.

The prosthodontist requires a sound knowledge about these therapies to participate in the application and contribute to the growing knowledge base. This paper presentation provides an insight into the classification, guidelines for application, procedural aspects and complications management.

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