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### **Clinical Evaluation of a+PRF Membranes for Gingival Soft Tissue Augmentation**

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#### **Objectives Objectives:**

This pilot study aims to assess the effectiveness of Advanced + Platelet-Rich Fibrin (A+PRF) membranes solely for vertical soft tissue augmentation in partially edentulous patients characterized by a thin gingival biotype.

#### **Methods Methods:**

Eight patients (6 females, 2 males), aged 39 to 68, underwent treatment at a dental clinic in Riga, Latvia. Twelve sites, comprising 6 free-end edentulous ridges and 6 interdental spaces, were evaluated. Partially edentulous patients with thin gingiva measuring less than 3mm were included. Surgical procedures involved subcrestal dental implant placement (1-2mm below the bone) followed by the application of double-folded A+PRF membranes consisting of 3 layers on top of the implant. Soft tissue thickness was measured occlusally using a periodontal probe both before and 3 months after procedure. For statistical analysis, t-tests were used, and statistical significance was set at a p-value of <0.05.

#### **Results Results:**

A statistically significant increase in gingival soft tissue thickness was observed, with a mean difference of 1.25 mm (SD 4.75 mm,  $p < 0.05$ ). When comparing soft tissue gain between 6 free-end edentulous ridges (mean 0.9167 mm) with 6 interdental spaces (mean 1.5 mm), there was no statistically significant difference in soft tissue gains between the two groups.

#### **Conclusions Conclusions:**

There was clinically significant increase in gingival soft tissue thickness using A+PRF membranes as the sole material, indicating promising results in their effectiveness in enhancing peri-implant soft tissue dimensions. These finding should be further evaluated with a larger sample size.