

The Interproximal Height of Bone as a Prognostic Guide to Esthetic Tooth Replacement

Predictable interproximal soft tissue dimensions measured from the most coronal IHB (note: measurements rounded to nearest half millimeter for clinical relevance and utilization).

CLASS	Restorative Environment	Proximity Limitations	Vertical Soft Tissue Limitations
1	Tooth-Tooth	1mm	5 mm
2	Tooth-Pontic	N/A	6.5 mm
3	Pontic-Pontic	N/A	6.0 mm
4	Tooth-Implant	1.5mm	4.5 mm
5	Implant-Pontic	N/A	5.5 mm
6	Implant-Implant	3mm	3.5 mm

*Updated data from Salama, H., Salama, M.A., Garber, D.A., and Adar, P. (1998). **The Interproximal Height of Bone: A Guidepost to Esthetic Strategies and Soft Tissue Contours in Anterior Tooth Replacement.** Practical Periodontics and Aesthetic Dentistry.

The data indicates that predictable soft tissue vertical dimensions in the optimized maxillary anterior interproximal site cannot be represented by a single measurement or number. The dimensions will differ significantly depending on the restorative elements which border a specific interproximal site, i.e. tooth implant and pontic. In addressing tooth replacement challenges in the anterior region, Team Atlanta utilizes the data in the accompanying chart for developing treatment plans that allow for optimal gingival esthetic profiles, incorporating predictable interproximal papillae dimensions.