



2021 Clinical Research in Periodontology Award

Each year, the American Academy of Periodontology (AAP) presents the Clinical Research Award, sponsored by Quintessence Publishing Company, to an outstanding published scientific study with direct clinical relevance in periodontics. The winning study must follow established scientific methods for a human study, be published in English in a scientific journal during the previous calendar year, directly apply to the practice of periodontics, and provide new information that can be readily used by practitioners in the evaluation of patients.

The 2021 award recognized the study titled "American Academy of Periodontology Best Evidence Consensus Statement on Modifying Periodontal Phenotype in Preparation for Orthodontic and Restorative Treatment," by Richard T. Kao, Donald A. Curtis, David M. Kim, Guo-Hao Lin, Chin-Wei Wang, Charles M. Cobb, Yung-Ting Hsu,

Joseph Kan, Diego Velasquez, Gustavo Avila-Ortiz, Shan-Huey Yu, George A. Mandelaris, Paul S. Rosen, Marianna Evans, John Gunsolley, Katie Goss, Jeanne Ambruster, and Hom-Lay Wang.

The study, which appeared in issue 3 of the *Journal of Periodontology*, sought to define parameters for periodontal and peri-implant health to collectively determine whether phenotype modification therapy (PhMT) can help improve or maintain dental health, especially before extensive restorative and orthodontic treatment. Experts comprised the panel, each with extensive knowledge of gingival phenotype and the effects of PhMT on periodontal health, on soft tissue around fixed dental prostheses, and in concert with orthodontic treatment.

For each clinical question, the authors presented the evidence evaluated in their systematic reviews

and the evidence-based conclusions. The following conclusions were reached: Subjects with thin tissues and poor gingival width are more prone to recession. For these patients, bone PhMT should be pursued before orthodontic treatment, particularly if the bony housing will be compromised by orthodontic tooth movement. Advanced imaging technology may be required for PhMT treatment, but it may enhance periodontal health, reduce complications, increase stability, and shorten orthodontic treatment time in orthodontic patients.

To view the full study, please visit <https://aap.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/JPER.19-0577>. For information about the AAP Clinical Research Award, please visit <https://www.perio.org/for-members/aap-organizational-information/academy-awards/#clinical>.



The recipients of the 2021 Clinical Research Award are Richard T. Kao, Donald A. Curtis, David M. Kim, Guo-Hao Lin, Chin-Wei Wang, Charles M. Cobb, Yung-Ting Hsu, Joseph Kan, Diego Velasquez, Gustavo Avila-Ortiz, Shan-Huey Yu, George A. Mandelaris, Paul S. Rosen, Marianna Evans, John Gunsolley, Katie Goss, Jeanne Ambruster, and Hom-Lay Wang.