

# Crown Lengthening Fees

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**searay**

Post: 1 of 18

Posted: 12/8/2005

Total Posts: 52

If I'm living in the dark ages folks, please set me straight, but I just sent a patient to a local periodontist for crown lengthening [CL] on two teeth. The office quoted a fee of about \$2,000 to my patient. I think that sounds outrageous. Is that reasonable nowadays? Do I need a reality check or does this perio office need one? ■

**kmstratton**

Post: 2 of 18 • Posted: 12/8/2005 • Total Posts: 148

Crown lengthening runs about \$500/tooth in western Michigan (includes flap, bone removal and follow-up at one week). ■

**apollonian**

Post: 3 of 18

Posted: 12/8/2005

Total Posts: 6,115



Searay, the reality check is needed both ways. Crown lengthening, in today's modern perio offices, is a whole different animal than it was "in my day." I wonder about the balance; when the crown lengthening fee, plus crown and often endo, greatly exceeds the cost for an implant and crown. Or, if the "damage" done by invading biologic width is really worth \$2,000 to prevent. Anyway, the \$2,000 fee is probably a bit high, but not really unreasonable. It just makes you wonder if the value is there. If most general dentists practiced like our specialty friends would like us to (and as the sky-is-falling lawyer-phobics would have us practice), a single tooth could cost \$4,000 to fix. Oh well, at least we would all have a chance to make some very nice dentures over time. ■

**itrtgums**

Post: 6 of 18

Posted: 12/8/2005

Total Posts: 702

My fee is \$900/tooth, but that includes adjacent teeth (so, actually per three teeth). It would depend on the patient, insurance, etc., but I would probably charge \$1,350 if it was a fee-for-service patient since I would have to expose four teeth rather than just three teeth for the crown lengthening. ■

**yacabu**

Post: 7 of 18 • Posted: 12/8/2005

Total Posts: 625

Our fee (in southern California) is \$825 per tooth with an extra \$50 for any adjacent teeth, so two adjacent teeth would be \$875. That fee is for the actual crown lengthening and all necessary post-op visits. ■ Anne

**Chip Payet**

Post: 8 of 18

Posted: 12/8/2005

Total Posts: 21,099



My periodontist charges about \$675/tooth. If multiple teeth and they're adjacent, then he just adds \$100 per additional tooth. If they're in different quadrants, I think he charges full-fee for each. Did you ask the perio if that includes sedation or anything else? Of course, now I'm getting my periodontist to do root-reshaping (and I'm going to be learning to do it myself for the easy cases) instead of CL as often as possible. Much better way to do it IMHO [in my honest/humble opinion]. ■

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**jmaya**

Post: 9 of 18  
Posted: 12/8/2005  
Total Posts: 5892



Shoot, there's no way to lengthen a single tooth on its own and maintain the architecture. Periodontists were taught to do a tooth and 1/2 on each side of the one being lengthened. I'll bet that's why itrtgums has his fee at \$900, which is the norm in my town. I'm a GP and my fee is a few bucks from itrtgums; now is it lower or higher? ■

**upnerio**

Post: 14 of 18  
Posted: 12/9/2005  
Total Posts: 678



I think my fee is about \$700 for a single tooth (e.g. a fractured tooth). I raise it to around \$1,600 though if it's aesthetic CL (which usually involves all of the maxillary teeth. I've heard of aesthetic CL going for \$3,000+). ■ **John Hall, Periodontist**

**sgoel**

Post: 15 of 18  
Posted: 12/11/2005  
Total Posts: 331

That's about what my fee is, \$843 I think for whatever it takes and all post-ops, etc. To me that is a ton of money and I'm happy with the fee. When I set my fees, I think about what people make these days at their jobs, and how crazy it must seem that someone may have to work two weeks to pay for me to do a simple procedure. I'm sure someone is going to say, "Well, look at the value you are providing to the patient." Sure, it's great value that they get to keep the tooth, but that doesn't mean we have to charge as much as we can! \$2,000 is nuts (to me)! ■ **Suresh**

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