



GUM BLEACHING

WHAT IS IT?

The most common cause of darker pigments in the gums is genetics. Excess melanin can build up in the gums, making them look brown or black instead of pink. This is more common in certain ethnic groups like people with African or Middle Eastern ancestry. The extra pigment does not indicate any disease or dysfunction. Patients seek treatment because of an aesthetic preference for pink gums that showcase their teeth better.

Other causes for dark gums include smoking, side effects from certain medications and possible effect of amalgam fillings on the gum. Dr Sundeep Patel is a member of the British Institute of Laser Dentistry (BILD) and can answer your questions.

We use the highest quality laser, which is continually verified and examined to be in primary condition for treatment.



FAQ'S

WHAT IS THE HEALING PROCESS LIKE?

Patients who utilise a dental laser can expect minor discomfort but no complications after the treatment. Patients with very sensitive gums may experience some discomfort for a short period of time. Patients can expect to be able to speak and eat normally immediately after the treatment is completed.

Everything should heal in about 2 weeks

HOW LONG DOES THE GUM DEPIGMENTATION TREATMENT LAST?

One gum depigmentation treatment can last 10 years or up to a lifetime depending on the cell turnover in the gums.

HOW LONG DOES THE TREATMENT TAKE?

The procedure takes 20-45 minutes depending on the colour and size of the dark patch. We will give you local anaesthetic to make the procedure as comfortable as possible.

WHAT HAPPENS IF I STILL HAVE A FEW PIGMENTS LEFT ONCE THE GUMS HAVE HEALED?



On your review appointment we can go over the areas that you can still see some pigmentation.

CAN I SMOKE?

We encourage all smokers to stop smoking completely after the procedure as smoking is one of the causes of pigmentation.

You need to stop smoking for at least 7 days after the procedure.

How much does it cost?

We offer no obligation complimentary consultations, after the consultation we take a £80 deposit to book the treatment which is then put towards your treatment.

If you wish to have your upper gums treated only, this unique procedure cost as little as £400, to have upper and lower gums treated this cost £800. This includes a review after 2 -3 weeks to do any patches that need retreating.

THE TREATMENT PROCESS

1. Your first visit is your complimentary consultation with our dentist, which usually lasts 20 minutes.
2. The laser gum depigmentation vaporizes and removes a thin top layer of the gum tissue, destroying the cells that produce melanin.
3. As new tissue is created during healing, it tends to be pink rather than brown. The treatment may require a local anaesthetic injection (occasionally topical gel only) and has a short recovery time with manageable discomfort.
4. Sometimes depending on the colour and depth of the dark patch, it could take several sessions to achieve the desired degree of lightening.

WHO IS A CANDIDATE?

The main guideline is simply that the gums must be healthy. We can assess your gum health at the free consultation that you have with our dentist.

This cosmetic treatment is not suitable for:

- Patients with oral disease
- Patients with dark gums caused by periodontal disease (this is not a surface pigment problem)
- Patients taking blood thinners (these can cause excessive bleeding during treatment)
- Patients with thin gum tissue or prominent tooth roots (they may experience ongoing sensitivity if roots are accidentally exposed by the removal of gum tissue)