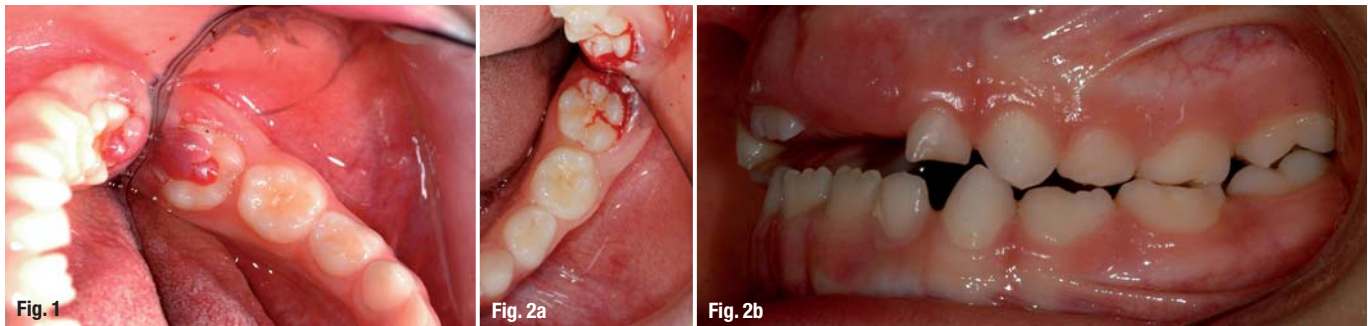


# Paediatric laser-assisted dentistry

## A clinical approach

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**Fig. 1** \_ Female patient, 6.2 years old. Due to 3.6 eruption an hyperplastic tissue has formed.

**Fig. 2 a & b** \_ Immediately after Erbium excision: laser-assisted gingivoplasty procedure (a). Clinical outcome (b).

**Fig. 3 a-c** \_ Female patient, 9.2 years old. An orthodontic band was placed on 1.6: hyperplastic tissue (a). A minor laser-assisted treatment of oral soft tissue was performed to insert the palatal barr and elastic ligation.

### \_ Abstract

The approach to paediatric dental patient demands close cooperation between dentist-parents and the child himself. Laser-assisted therapy is a modern and effective strategy. Laser technology has a wide application in dental care and treatment, oral traumatology and minor surgical procedures, and it's suitable for the treatment both of primary and permanent teeth. The authors' aim is to stimulate more extensive scientific research in this area and to offer a clinical overview, showing also some clinical procedures.

### \_ Introduction

One of the main roles of the paediatric dentist is to provide effective education on prevention in order

to reduce the incidence of dental and oral disease throughout childhood and adolescence and into adulthood.

In this context, it is essential never to lose sight of a key aim: tissue preservation. Preferably, this is achieved by preventing disease from occurring in the first place, and by arresting its progress when it does occur. But tissue preservation also means removing diseased tissue and restoring defects with as little tissue loss as possible.

Today, we are assisted in this endeavour by techniques allowing early diagnosis (digital radiology with low radiation emission, diagnostic lasers and the dental operative microscope) and minimally invasive therapy (ozone therapy, air abrasion, rotary

