

Oral histology

Cementum

Lect 10

Dr.Enas Fadhil Kadhim

Cementum

- One of the four tissues of the periodontium.
- Thickest at the root apex and in the interradicular areas.
- Cementum is continuous with the PDL on its outer surface and firmly adherent to dentine.
- Its prime function is to give attachment to collagen fibers of the PDL.
- It is involved in tooth repair and regeneration.

Physical properties

- Cementum is pale yellow.
- Softer than dentine and more permeable (permeability decreases with age).
- Relative softness with its thinness cervically means that it can be removed readily with abrasion when gingival recession exposes the root causing sensitivity.

Chemical properties

- Contains organic and inorganic material.
- The principle inorganic material is hydroxyapatite, calcium is also found (in higher levels than enamel and dentine).
- The organic matrix is primarily collagen type I.
- Other non-collagenous proteins: bone sialoprotein, dentine sialoprotein, fibronectin..
- CAP (cementum derived attachment protein) promote attachment of mesenchymal cells to extracellular matrix, and may be a marker to differentiate cementum and bone.
- Cementum is rich in Glucose aminoglycan esp. chondroitin sulphate and located around cementum lacunae.

Classification of cementum

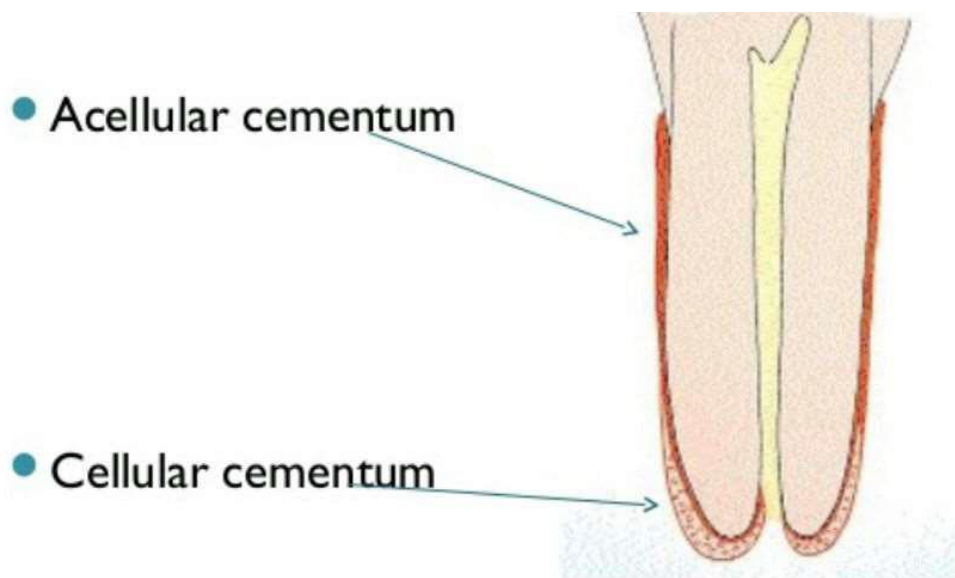
1. Based on the presence or absence of cells.
2. Based on the nature and origin of the organic matrix.
3. Based on the presence or absence of cells and on the nature and origin of the organic matrix.

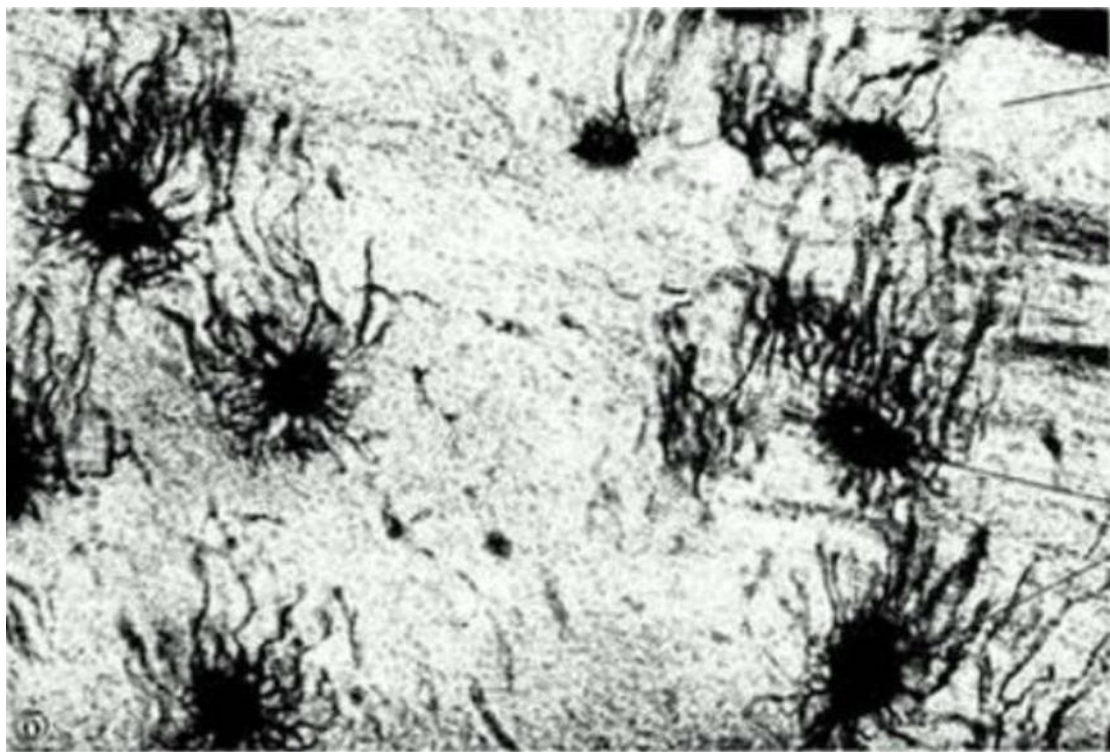
1. Based on the presence or absence of cells.

A. Acellular cementum (primary cementum) : formes first
Does not contain cells , covers the root adjacent to dentine.

B. Cellular cementum(secondary cementum): contains
cemetocytes, formation rate is slow , it is well mineralized,
found mainly in the apical area covering apical area overlying
acellular cementum.

□ Although usually cellular cementum overlies acellular
cementum the reverse may occur , or the two variants of the
cementum to alternate.





2. Based on the nature and origin of the organic matrix

□ cementum derives its organic matrix from two sources:

A. Extinsic fibers: they are Sharpey fibers from the PDL, these fibers continue in the same direction as the principal fibers of the ligament.

B. Intrinsic fibers: derived from cementoblasts, run parallel to the root surface and at right angle to the extrinsic fibers.

C. Mixed fibre cementum : both extrinsic and intrinsic fibers are present.



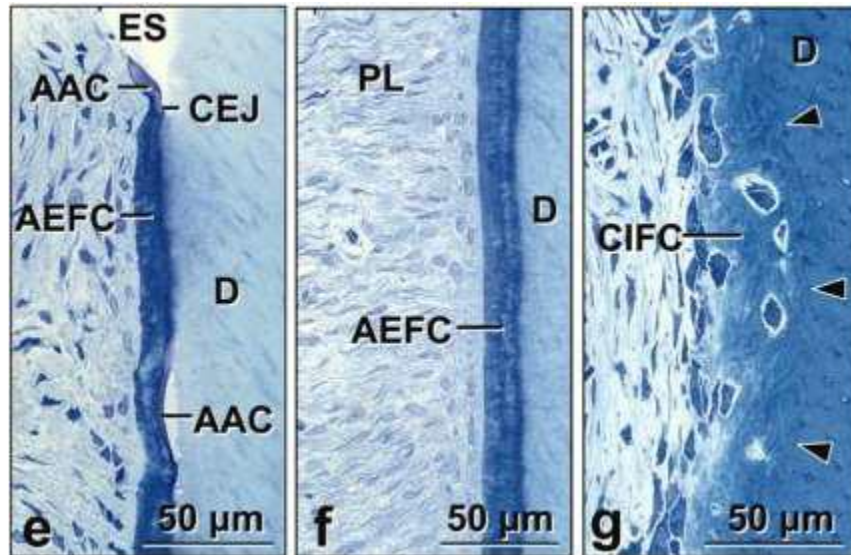
3-Based on the presence or absence of cells and on the nature and origin of the organic matrix.

A. Acellular extrinsic fibre cementum (AEFC):

- Corresponds with acellular cementum, found in the cervical two thirds.
- Fibers derived from sharpy fibers.
- Formed slowly and root surface is smooth.

B. Cellular intrinsic fibre cementum(CIFC):

- Corrosponds to cellular cementum .
- Composed only of intrinsic fibers running parallel to the root surface.
- Has no role in tooth attachment since there's no sharpy fibers.
- Less cellular than bone and has a cemetoid seam on its outer surface.



C. mixed fibre cementum:

- Collagen fibers are both extrinsic and intrinsic .
- Intrinsic fibers are fewer in number and run between the larger ovoid or round extrinsic fibers.
- If the formation rate is slow cementum may be termed acellular mixed fibre cementum.
- If the formation rate is fast, cementum may be termed cellular mixed fibre cementum.

D. A fibrillar cementum

- Contains no collagen fibers.
- Sparsely distributed and consists of a well mineralized ground substances that may be of epithelial origin.
- It's thin, acellular layer covers cervical enamel or in between fibrillar cementum and dentine.
- Formed following the loss of reduced enamel epithelium.



Cementum-dentine junction

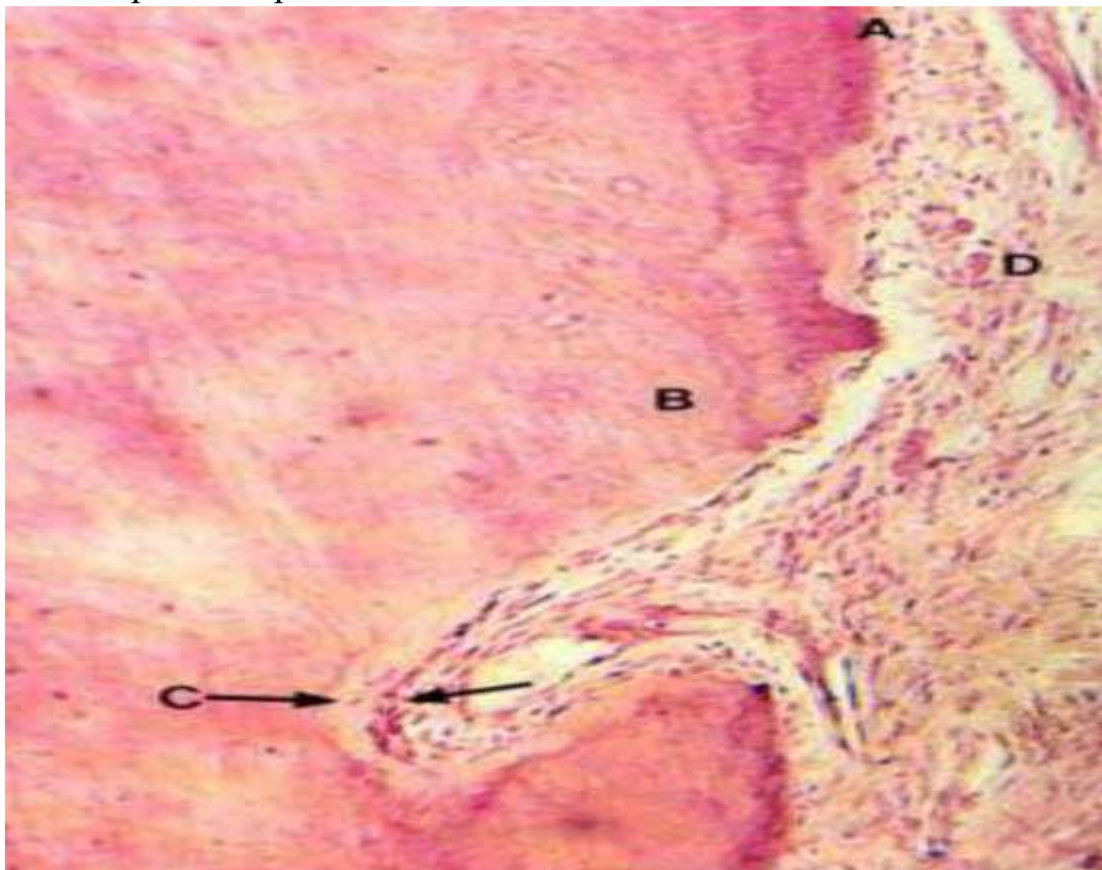
- This junction is of clinical importance because of the processes involved in maintaining tooth function while repairing diseased root.
- Intermediate layer found between cementum and dentine.
- This layer is characterized by wide, irregular, branching spaces which interconnect with dentinal tubules.
- Intermediate layer may function as a permeability barrier preceding cementogenesis.
- Also related to regeneration of the periodontium following periodontal surgery.



- Cementum near the periodontium is not homogenous because of the ongoing calcification and the presence of Sharpey fibers.
- At deeper levels, closer to dentine acellular cementum resembles dentine.

Resorption and repair of cementum

- Cementum is less susceptible to resorption than bone, but localised areas of resorption are found associated with micro trauma.
- Resorption is carried out out by multinucleated odontoclasts.
- The unmineralized surface layer of collagen protects against resorption.
- Repair occurs as a layer of formative cells (cementoblasts) depositing a thin layer of precementum.
- **Reversal line** separates the repair tissue from underlying dental tissues.
- When the speed of formation of the repair tissue is slow the repair tissue cannot be distinguished histologically, and it is well mineralized
- If the speed is rapid it resembles woven bone.



Clinical consideration

cemental callus

- sometimes form around root fractures
- Does not usually remodel to the original dimensions of the tooth.

cementicles

- Are small globular masses of cementum attached to the root or free in the PDL
- As a result of microtrauma
- More common in apical and middle thirds of the root and in bifurcation areas



- **Local hypercementosis**
- In cases of chronic periapical infections.
- Fusion of adjacent teeth called **concrecence**.
- Hypercementosis affecting all teeth is associated with Paget's disease .

Hypophosphatasia

result in reduction of tissue non-specific alkaline phosphatase which causes significant reduction in amount of cementum formed, as a result the attachment of the PDL Fibers is compromised which causes premature loss of teeth (both primary and permanent dentition).

