**Data S1.** Characteristics of the excluded articles

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| Rationale for exclusion | Study |
| Not RCT | Ozcelik et al. 2015, Souza et al. 2008, Bellver-Fernandez et al. 2016, Cairo and pini-prato 2010, Chambrone and chambrone 2006, de sanctis et al. 2011, Dominiak et al. 2006, Harris 2000, Harris 2002, Harris et al. 2005, Hirsch et al. 2005, Lee et al. 2002, Pini prato et al. 2010, pini-prato et al. 2010, pini-prato et al. 2011, Pini-prato et al. 2015, Pini-prato et al. 2015, Roman et al. 2012, Wennstrom and Zucchelli 1996, Zucchelli et al. 2010  |
| EDTA used in adjuct to other biologic agents (EMD/PDGF) | Deshpande et al. 2014, Rubins et al. 2014  |
| CTG left exposed | Byun et al. 2009, Cordioli et al. 2001, Jepsen et al. 1998 |
| Miller class III | Cairo et al. 2015 (SCTG), Henriques et al. 2010 |
| Use of different chemical agent (Tetracycline)  | Bherwani et al. 2014 |
| Non-carious cervical lesions | Santamaria et al. 2009, Santamaria 2010, Santamaria et al. 2013, Santamaria et al. 2014 |
| Follow-up of a previous randomized trial | Cairo et al. 2015, Moses et al. 2006 |
| No reporting SD or 95% confidential intervals for any of the investigated parameters | Lops et al. 2015 |
| Insufficient/unclear data, unable to extract raw data for statistical analysis | Zucchelli et al. 1998, Alkan et al. 2011 |
| Different flap design than CAF | Tunali et al. 2015 (IJPRD) |
| Less than one year follow-up | Kassab et al. 2006, Cortellini et al. 2009, Eren et al. 2014, Fernandes-Dias et al. 2015, Santamaria et al. 2017, McGuire et al. 2009, Cairo et al. 2015 (SCTG), Gilbert et el. 2015, Mazzocco et al. 2011, Salhi et al. 2014  |