Predictable and functional esthetics with low shrinkage and reduced stress

By Shofu Dental Staff

One of the greatest limitations in the use of resin composites is the material’s shrinkage during polymerization. This process, typically associated with dynamic development of elastic modulus, creates a network of stress cells within the resin composite and its interface with the tooth structure. The unrelieved stress can weaken the bond between the tooth structure and the restoration. Consequently, marginal leakage, tooth fracture and a restoration’s displacement may occur and further initiate the formation of secondary caries and postoperative sensitivity.

On average, the majority of resin composites in the market shrink about 2 to 5 percent. As polymerization shrinkage cannot be completely eliminated, a plethora of techniques and protocols has been developed to conduct the manipulation of restorative procedures to minimize the effects of shrinkage and associated shrinkage stress. Introduction of various new composite systems with low-shrink chemistry may also help overcome the problem.

A next generation of a bioactive composite indicated for all cavity classes, I—V, Beautifil II LS (Low Shrink) provides general practitioners with the means to reduce polymerization shrinkage and shrinkage stress while creating predictable and functional esthetics.

Like all restorative materials from Shofu, this novel composite incorporates the proprietary biomimetic chemistry, clinically proven in eight- and 13-year recall studies to release and recharge fluoride and other beneficial ions and inhibit plaque formation to help establish a stable pH in the oral environment.

Highly filled, 83 wt percent, Beautifil II LS demonstrates excellent compressive and flexural strength (ca. 370 MPa and 120 MPa, respectively), maintains ideal color stability and polishes in an instant, producing a long-lasting sheen, according to the company.

Among the distinguishing features of Beautifil II LS are its low-shrink attributes. In rigorous international bench tests, this ground-breaking material demonstrated volumetric shrinkage of 0.85 percent and polymerization shrinkage stress of 2.72 MPa, the lowest characteristics among all universal composites in the market today. Shofu attributes these outstanding results to a new proprietary monomer and high-density pre-polymerized fillers, which also exhibit tooth-like optical properties and natural esthetics.

Available in syringes, tips and value kits, in 14 dentin and enamel shades, Beautifil II LS offers the clinicians predictable and functional esthetics with greater strength, higher wear resistance and naturally beautiful esthetics, according to the company.

Features of Beautifil II LS (Low Shrink)

- Lowest volumetric shrinkage (0.85 percent) and shrinkage stress (2.72 MPa)
- Greater strength and higher wear resistance.
- Tooth-like esthetics with natural fluorescence and chameleon effect.
- Polishes in an instant.
- Sustained fluoride release/recharge with bioactive Giomer chemistry.

To learn more about the Beautifil II LS (Low Shrink), stop by the Shofu booth, No. 4408.
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KEYNOTE SPEAKER: KATIE MEYLER
Katie Meyler is the Founder and CEO of More Than Me (MTM), a leading network in Liberia that works in partnership with the Ministry of Education to rebuild the education system. She was Time’s Person of the Year in 2014 for her efforts on the front lines of Ebola. Katie was also honored among People’s 25 Women Changing the World, along with Sheryl Sandberg and Oprah Winfrey. A Nelson Mandela Changemaker, Meyler is also one of Global Citizen’s 17 Badass Women, and one of Glamour’s 4 Inspiring Women to Follow on Instagram.

PLUS! DR. PAMELA MARZBAN
Dr. Pamela Marzban has been in private practice for 16 years, and a business owner for 15. She works as an assistant professor at the Virginia Commonwealth University School of Dentistry. Dr. Marzban will present “Networking, Innovation, Giveback: What It Means to Be a Female Entrepreneur.”

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A SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT WILL BE MADE REGARDING THE 2018 LUCY HOBBS PROJECT ANNUAL CELEBRATION!
ConnectDental: The need for speed

By Robert Selleck, today Staff

Henry Schein Dental hosted about a dozen members of the dental industry press Monday morning in the exhibit hall in a session billed as “Harnessing the power of digital technology.”

Members of the Schein leadership team presented an overview of how the company is helping dental practices integrate digitized systems and tools to improve efficiencies and patient experiences in virtually every aspect of the business – from attracting and keeping patients, to delivering the best care possible.

Attendees also were encouraged to work hands-on with some of the company’s latest offerings in digital dentistry to gain a better understanding of how Henry Schein ConnectDental is responding to practices’ needs.

Just as the booth is set up for practitioners to work with the range of integrated instruments and systems, the booth featured various stations offering hands-on experiences with intraoral scanners, computer-aided design, in-office milling and workflow solutions.

In 2018, the company’s ConnectDental platform will be branded under an over-arching theme of “The need for speed.” According to Tim Sullivan, president, North American dental group, the phrase encompasses a core mission: “Focus on practice care so our customers (dentists) can focus on patient care.” The Henry Schein ConnectDental platform addresses the “speed” equation by enabling practices to grow, not by expanding business hours or cost-cutting – but by enabling practices to treat more patients, more effectively and more efficiently, from first contact through treatment and ongoing relationships.

John Cox, vice president, technology sales, said he likes to think of ConnectDental as a rocket booster. “It’s accelerating the pace at which (practices) can benefit from digital integration,” Cox said.

Listing the growing challenges facing practices in today’s market, Cox explained how ConnectDental is enabling practices to deliver a “wow-factory” in the patient experience through digital technology – and greater efficiencies through fully integrated digital workflow systems.

Also speaking was Alan Jurim, DDS, who is known as the “The Engineering Dentist,” in part because of his dual-degrees in computer systems engineering and electrical engineering earned prior to his DDS. Jurim outlined how he uses digital dentistry in his own practice, not to save money by not purchasing materials that digital tools have replaced but because “I want to get from point A to point B in the most systematic fashion for the benefit of the patient and the practice as well.”

He then guided attendees through his practice’s various steps of marketing, diagnoses, treatment planning, treatment, communication with labs and other care professionals, treatment results, follow-up and patient retention – all seamlessly and digitally linked to achieve the best experience and results possible for the patient.
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Greater New York Dental Meeting
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Thanks to SoloCem, COLTENE’s self-adhesive dual-curing resin cement, secure cementation does not depend on the number of working steps. Self-adhesive SoloCem achieves reliable bonding values with no additional bonding required — making it a true one-step process for the clinician, according to the company.

The one-step cementation process saves time for the dentist without sacrificing reliable bonding, according to the company. MDP and 4-MET(A) monomers ensure strong bonding values on a range of different materials (ceramic, metal, composite) and for a variety of indications (crowns, bridges, inlays, onlays, endodontic posts and implant abutments).

The composite-like formulation of SoloCem contains antibacterial zinc oxide and is highly radiopaque. Low shrinkage contributes to a high-quality bond and durable restoration. SoloCem is delivered via Automix syringes with ready-to-use mixing tips. Intracural processing time is approximately 60 seconds, and excess material may be easily removed after light curing for three seconds. SoloCem is available in three shades: dentin, white opaque and translucent. 5 ml refills are available for each shade as well as an intro kit that contains 5 ml syringes of dentin and translucent and 10 each of two mixing tip varieties.

SoloCem self-adhesive cement: Providing high-bond strength in one easy step.
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Henry Schein Financial Services offers a wide range of solutions to better position your business for accelerated growth and savings.

Visit our Financial Experts at Booth #4225 to learn how our portfolio of financial services can be tailored to meet the unique needs of your business and help you achieve your practice goals.

**TODAY’S SCHEDULE**

**NEW! IN-BOOTH THEATER PRESENTATIONS**

11:00AM  
**A 2017 GUIDE TO DIGITAL IMPRESSIONS – 2 CE CREDIT TAKE-HOME!**

1:00PM  
**Schein Digitalink Panel Discussion – Featuring i-CAT and DEXIS!**

3:00PM  
**Does Brand Matter in Dentistry?**

**GLASS CLASSROOM #5800**

9:45AM-12:45PM  
**Dentistry 20/20 Workshop: A Vision for the Future of Your Practice**

By: Eric Nuss

2:00PM-5:00PM  
**Henry Schein Dental Handpiece and Equipment Repair Hands-On Workshop**

By: Henry Schein Dental Service Technicians & ProRepair

**ASK ABOUT OUR CYBER MONDAY DEALS**

**FLASH SALE!**

Ask a Henry Schein Dental Consultant about our Cyber Monday offers!

**#ScheinSelfie**

**LOOK FOR OUR SNAPCHAT GEOFILTER AND TAKE YOUR #ScheinSelfie!**

Take a selfie at the Greater New York Dental meeting and use our “ScheinSelfie” Snapchat filter! Save your selfie and upload to Facebook, Twitter, and/or Instagram with the hashtag #ScheinSelfie.

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Say goodbye to inaccurate crown restorations

By ContacEZ Staff

PrepSure, Crown Prep Guide, is a set of innovative crown prep instruments designed to monitor and confirm ideal creation of abutments for crowns and onlays.

According to ContacEZ, the company behind the product, by ensuring accurate preparations and eliminating both over-reduction and under-reduction, PrepSure avoids necessitating metal occlusion, prevents premature crown fractures or perforations, and preserves natural tooth structure. This, in turn, maximizes the longevity of crowns and prevents hypersensitivity after crown seating.

In the past, reliance on visual acuity or stacked layers of carbon paper have led to endemic under-preparation — reports from lab technicians and industry research suggest more than 80 percent of crown preparations have inadequate occlusal clearance.* These inaccurate preparations, in turn, lead to embarrassing and wasteful follow-up appointments for additional reduction and second impressions or weak, short-lived restorations that are likely to fail far sooner than you or your patient would like. In either case, the end result is the sort of poor patient experience we all want to avoid.

With PrepSure, you can eliminate all the guesswork from crown preparation and better provide your patients with excellent, long-lasting restorations, according to the company.

The ergonomically designed 1.0, 1.5 and 2.0 mm PrepSure instruments are designed to gauge and confirm adequate occlusal clearance on preps for virtually all common crown materials.

Simply pass the precisely measured tips through the prepared occlusal space to quickly and easily determine if enough reduction has been performed. If the tip is able to pass over the cuspal waves freely, adequate clearance has been prepared. If not, additional reduction is necessary where the instrument has met resistance.

Here are the benefits of using PrepSure, according to the company:
• Strong, beautiful restorations — PrepSure ensures accurate prep, enabling fabrication of restorations without risk of premature breakage.
• No more second appointments — Doctors never need to call a patient back for second impressions or digital scans if they use PrepSure.
• Versatility — For zirconia, PFMs, ceramics and more, PrepSure is designed to ensure accuracy with every crown preparation.
• Patient satisfaction — Excellent preps lead to excellent crowns; with PrepSure, an excellent patient experience is ensured, the company asserts.

Join ContacEZ at booth No. 3424 to experience how PrepSure can benefit your practice and your patients.

Reference

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE BIGGEST IMAGING SAVINGS OF THE YEAR going on now through December 31, 2017. Imaging solutions that are designed to improve the way you work—that’s Midmark.

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VISIT BOOTH #4609 NOW TO EXPERIENCE THE MIDMARK DIFFERENCE.
The years you have invested in building a thriving dental practice amount to nothing if you have not planned in advance for the catastrophic loss of your ability to see patients.

By Alan Clemens

- We have always been taught to be prepared — and we usually are. We prepare for our patients. We prepare for vacations. We even prepare for the future of our families when the time comes that we can no longer care for them by drawing up a will.

Your dental practice is part of your estate — most likely, it’s one of the largest assets you have. But how many doctors stop to think about what that practice might be worth if they were not there to run it?

A dental practice is not like a shoe store, which can remain in business or perhaps even thrive with the same staff simply performing as they always have. Most dental practices are personal service businesses and depend primarily on one person — the dentist. If the dentist is unable to see patients, the practice will deteriorate rapidly as patients see other doctors for their treatment.

Indeed, the value of the practice declines every day the doctor is not able to treat patients. This process of value erosion must be halted or prevented — and we usually are. We prepare — and we usually are. We prepare — and we usually are.

Window of opportunity

There is a critical period after a doctor becomes ill or disabled during which the practice must be sold in order to realize its full value. This period is usually 30-45 days, especially in the case of the death of the owner.

Typically, however, during the first month, the grief-stricken spouse and heirs understandably do little or nothing regarding the practice. Others, including the family attorney, may become involved; but often, these people are not well-versed in dental practice evaluation and may believe the practice has a wildly unrealistic value.

There are ways to prepare for the preservation of the value of your practice in the event of the unexpected loss of your services. A first step is to get a professional evaluation to determine what your practice is worth today while you are still active. This establishes a benchmark that can be used to determine whether any contingency plans you make will preserve the practice’s value in the event of unforeseen events in the future.

Your plans should aim at keeping the value of the practice in line with its current worth.

Seriously consider consulting and experiencing reliable dental practice transition expert to arrange for an appraisal and to arrange to have the appraisal updated on a regular basis.

Make sure your accountant and attorney are aware of this appraisal and who is doing it so they can cooperate, as needed, to ensure that the appraisal is fair and accurate.

Easing the pain

As part of your relationship with your chosen practice transition expert, you should make plans for that person to undertake all steps to market your practice as quickly as possible while it still has value. If this has been prearranged, your spouse and heirs will be relieved of many decisions that must be made without delay and could be painful and difficult to make under the circumstances.

Involving key personnel, especially your spouse, in all aspects of the planning process so that they know exactly where important papers and records are kept and who your advisors are. None of the details of handling the disposition of your practice should come as a surprise, and frantic searching for records should be unnecessary.

Let your practice’s office manager know of your plans and who should be consulted to keep the practice functioning as normally as possible. Here she probably knows where papers and records are kept and how to contact your attorney and accountant. He or she should also know who you have chosen to implement any plans to sell the practice.

We all hope plans such as these never need to be implemented, and that when the time comes to transfer the practice, it can be done in an orderly manner and to complete satisfaction of the doctor and his or her patients. But that can’t always be the case, and it is for the benefit of everyone involved that the doctor makes the effort in advance to be prepared.
Creator of the modern diode laser brings back two top-selling designs

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By Dentatus Staff

- Dentatus implants are safe, long-term solutions that you can rely on to provide patients with immediate function with minimal discomfort. What’s more, according to the company, Dentatus is the only system of its kind where a crown can be changed and adapted over time without causing any damage to the implant itself.

The upshot? In a single visit, a Dentatus ANEW implant is placed and a temporary crown is fabricated. Patients can immediately enjoy the benefits of an esthetic restoration and can conveniently schedule the next visit.

In the United States, Europe and Japan, more than 240 million people lack at least one tooth. In the U.S. alone, that number is 178 million. But for a variety of reasons — medical, clinical, emotional, financial or maybe simply a lack of awareness that new teeth can be placed in one short minimally invasive procedure — a minority seeks implant procedures.

Since Dentatus ANEW implants are considerably thinner than most other implants — available in 1.8, 2.2, 2.4 and 2.8 mm diameters — they overcome anatomical limitations. Because there is no need to orthodontically move teeth to create interdental space or to undergo ridge augmentation in order to build bone, the Dentatus ANEW implant is both a time- and money-saver, the company asserts.

Simply put, you can put your trust in this tested system that involves fewer procedures, requires less chair time and uses less hardware than is needed with standard implants, according to the company.

Dentatus Anew leaves more healthy bone intact — causing minimal trauma — and is known to result in less bone loss, according to the company. With just one short session, a secure provisional restoration is fabricated, allowing you conveniently, and at your own pace, to schedule your next visit.

In Quintessence’s International Journal of Periodontics and Restorative Dentistry, Dr. Stuart Froum and the implant team at NYU published “Long-term Retrospective Evaluation of Success of Narrow Diameter Implants in Esthetic Areas: A Consecutive Case Series with Three to 14 Year Follow-up,” documenting a 14-year follow-up on narrow-diameter implants. This case series evaluates peri-implant bone remodeling, bone loss, esthetic outcomes and, most importantly, patient satisfaction with the final restoration. No implant failures or prosthetic complications were reported, and all patients reported that they were “very satisfied.”

Visit Dentatus at booth No. 1714 to pick up a reprint and also be sure to check out the newest campaign, “Get Your Patients Selfie-Ready” — an easy-to-read patient education brochure touting the benefits of implants for your patients who have questions or hesitation about treatment. In our selfie-oriented world, a full complement of teeth is more important than ever before.

The brochure explains how patients will walk out with a new tooth that feels secure, believably natural and permanent.

A new hands-free HVE suction solution

A Q&A with Dr. Lee Ann Brady on the new Ivory ReLeaf device from Kulzer

By Kulzer Staff

- Dr. Lee Ann Brady is a nationally recognized dentist and dental educator who says her goal is to partner with patients to assist them in making the best dental-health choices.

Here in New York

Dr. Lee Ann Brady shares her experience with the new Ivory® ReLeaf™ from Kulzer.

What are some of the challenges you face as a clinician during common dental procedures? Keeping the field isolated from saliva, managing the water spray from equipment and retracting the tongue and cheek.

Which procedures do you find suction devices to be most useful? All procedures, as long as the suction can be hands-free.

You were one of the first clinicians to try Ivory ReLeaf. What situations do you find it to be most effective? It can be used with or without a bite block, so it is great for patients who cannot tolerate a bite block or have small mouths.

It can also be easily taken in and out of the mouth as needed, and the patient can close his or her mouth, which is necessary for some procedures.

What do you see in terms of the impact on patients when using the product? They are more comfortable as they do not feel the water pooling in their mouth and like they have to resist swallowing. It also protects the inside of their cheek.

What do you see as the value of Ivory ReLeaf to a practice? Shorter appointments, greater daily production, enhanced patient comfort and setting your practice apart.

Here in New York

To learn more about ANEW implants and the ‘Get Your Patients Selfie-Ready’ campaign, stop by the Dentatus booth, No. 1714.

The ANEW implants. (Photo/Provided by Dentatus)

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The ANEW implants. (Photo/Provided by Dentatus)
Visit BISCO at Booth #1200 at the Greater New York Meeting.

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Coming Soon
reveal.bisco.com
New single-use application system from Sulzer Mixpac

By Sulzer Mixpac Staff

Sulzer Mixpac is presenting the new Unit Dose 0.5 ml at this week’s Greater New York Dental Meeting. The application system is used for the hygienic single-use of two-component dental materials, for example, temporary cements. The Unit Dose 0.5 ml simplifies the application of cements, saves time and, thus, increases hygiene as well as safety, explains Martina Strasser, head of sales, dental.

The ergonomically shaped Unit Dose 0.5 ml system is easy to use and incorporates various safety functions, such as a transport safety or a safety closure, the company asserts. The integrated MIXPAC™ T-Mixer™ mixing technology operates economically as it prevents unnecessary loss of material. This new product ensures a reliable, high-quality mixing result and prevents cross-contamination, according to the company. Clear markings show the user at a glance whether the system is activated and ready for use. The Unit Dose 0.5 ml does not require additional mixing tips as a T-Mixer is already integrated. Thus, the system only needs to be activated and is then ready for immediate use. The MIXPAC T-Mixer revolutionizes the principle of static mixing, the company states. As the T-Mixer distributes the individual molecules more homogeneously, the Unit Dose achieves perfect reactivity of the material.

The shorter mixing tips perfectly meet daily requirements in clinical application and allow easy and precise application, according to Sulzer Mixpac.

‘This new product ensures a reliable, high-quality mixing result and prevents cross-contamination.’
Speedster Metal Cutters
- Blend of power and precision for smooth, fast, controlled cutting
- Rapidly reduce materials such as amalgam, gold, porcelain, enamel and PFM

Operative and Surgical Burs
- Comprehensive offering of profiles and sizes
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- Uniformly coated with multiple layers of natural diamonds
- Extensive offering of grits and shapes

Trimming and Finishing Burs
- 12 and 30 blade instruments
- Contour, finish, and refine

ShapeGuard Polishers
- Adapts to any surface
- Uniform pressure distribution due to flexible lamellas
- Fast, easy and intuitive finishing & polishing

Greater New York Show Specials!

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GET 2 of the same Promo code: MT-257

BUY 5 100-Packs of Speedster Metal Cutter Burs
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BUY 5 10-Packs of Operative and Surgical Burs
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BUY 5 100-Packs of Operative and Surgical Burs
GET 2 of the same Promo code: MT-258

*Includes Right Angle (RA) and Handpiece (HP) burs
A composite that easily adapts

By Dr. Joseph Kim

When it comes to composite restorations, dentists are often asked to sacrifice speed for quality or quality for speed.

This has been especially true when it comes to bulk fill composites, which brought the promise of larger increment sizes but required specialized equipment or were otherwise difficult to handle.

Now, clinicians can have a composite that easily adapts to the tooth and can be used in a true bulk fill technique.

REVEAL® HD Bulk is BISCO’s new bulk fill light-activated restorative composites, optimized for simpler and faster posterior restorations. REVEAL HD Bulk combines appropriate handling, depth of cure and polishability, allowing clinicians to provide patients with functional and esthetic composites while saving valuable chair time.

REVEAL HD Bulk allows for layering increments up to 5 mm because of its predictable depth of cure. This feature is accompanied by low volumetric shrinkage, high flexural strength and excellent radiopacity, resulting in long-lasting, durable restorations.

While REVEAL HD Bulk is indicated for all direct and indirect restorations, clinicians will appreciate the significant time savings that bulk filling provides, especially in posterior teeth.

Like other restorative composites, it is important to maintain adequate isolation to prevent contamination of the tooth from saliva and blood. When indicated, use of a sectional matrix system with significant separation will ensure excellent adaptation to the proximal margins, as well as minimize interproximal food impaction.

After excellent isolation has been achieved, a universal bonding agent such as ALL BOND UNIVERSAL® is applied to all prepared surfaces, according to manufacturer instructions.

When possible, it is ideal to selectively etch the enamel surfaces where the composite in intended prior to application of the bonding agent, resulting in minimal long-term marginal leakage and dentinal sensitivity issues.

Get an air-free oral cavity with new handpiece

By Medidenta Staff

The Air-Free™ 90S is the newest addition to the Air-Free handpiece series. The Air-Free 90S is the only 90-degree surgical high-speed on the market, according to Medidenta, the company behind it. It provides a completely air-free oral cavity, making it great for surgical and periodontic procedures, such as flap/osteous surgery and erupted tooth extractions.

These procedures are often used with a 45-degree angulated handpiece; however, this can create an awkward angle for the practitioner. The 90-degree angle of the Air-Free 90S provides a more comfortable angle and less strain to help clinicians reach the procedure site, according to the company.

For maximum safety, there are no air vents out of the head of the handpiece. All air is vented through the dedicated pilot holes located on the back-end.

The Air-Free 90S handpiece also delivers 20-plus watts of power for smooth, constant and safe cutting, according to the company.

Dr. Joseph Kim advocates utilizing REVEAL HD Bulk for the significant time savings it offers. (Photo/Provided by Dr. Joseph Kim)

Depending on operator preference, a flowable composite resin may be used in the deepest and least accessible areas of the preparation, including undercuts and the cavosurface margins of proximal boxes. The appropriate shade of REVEAL HD Bulk can be placed in a single increment for most Class 1, 2 and 3 restorations.

For preparations that include areas that are deeper than 5 mm, it is advisable to build the restoration in appropriately sized increments. Keep in mind that because of its unique chemistry, care should be taken to avoid unnecessary exposure to light, including from ambient and overhead sources, in order to avoid premature hardening of the material.

Finally, the restoration can be finished with fine diamonds and finishing caries, followed by finishing points.

It is worth noting that because REVEAL HD Bulk’s viscosity has been tuned for bulk fill applications, it is preferable to limit occlusal carving and shaping to primary anatomy prior to curing. After curing, greater detail may be added with finishing burs, as needed.

Alternatively, when darker or opaque restorative composite shades are required, REVEAL HD Bulk can be placed and cured short of the occlusal cavosurface margins. The final layer can be a traditional restorative composite in an ideal shade and opacity. Because REVEAL HD Bulk is universally compatible, it will serve as an excellent base under all light-activated restorative composites.

REVEAL HD Bulk has been specifically designed to address the needs of clinicians who require the speed of a bulk fill restorative composite without sacrificing strength and ignoring esthetics. It is currently available in the most commonly used shades, from A3 to B1, in both syringe and unit dose form.
keep it real

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According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Guidelines, handpieces and other intraoral instruments that can be removed from the air and waterlines of dental units are considered semicritical devices.

In addition, studies show the internal portions of high-speed handpieces and low-speed handpiece motors can become contaminated and that it is possible for retained patient material to be released into the mouths of subsequent patients. Therefore, handpieces and other intraoral instruments should be removed from the air and waterlines of dental units, cleaned and heat-sterilized between patients. Follow the manufacturer’s instructions for cleaning, lubrication and sterilization. Do not surface-disinfect, submerge in liquid chemical sterilants or barrier-protect these instruments because these methods cannot adequately clean, disinfect or sterilize the internal components.

Solution

Prophy Magic (PM) is the home for “CR Choice Prophy Angles, but the company also produces fully autoclavable handpieces that are “where compliance meets comfort.” The low-speed motors are Etype, which enables any Etype attachment for use. They are also fully autoclavable, and with PM deals, you can get them free — which help to enable a sterile and compliant dental office without significant ongoing investments, the company asserts.

With an appropriate number of dental handpieces and associated attachments, along with top-rated prophy angles, PM can help your office properly ensure a safe and sterile environment for patients and staff but also eliminate downtime the new recommendations will employ.

*Clinicians Report is an independent, non-profit, dental education and product testing foundation.

Important CDC recommendations with a Prophy Magic solution

By Prophy Magic Staff

For more information about CDC compliance guidelines and how Prophy Magic can help, visit the booth, No. 1208, go online to www.prophymagic.com or call toll free (866) 54-MAGIC (62442).
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Ensuring proper patient positioning during X-rays

By Midmark Staff

In dental panoramic radiography, proper patient positioning is vital to receiving the high-quality, accurate diagnostic images needed to provide optimal dental care to patients.

The focal trough of the X-ray is relatively narrow, and if the patient is not properly positioned, the structures outside the focal trough might not be projected in focus.

For instance, if the chin is tipped too high or the patient’s tongue is not positioned against the palate, the image could be deemed unacceptable. In certain cases, the poor quality of the image could even result in patient complaints or legal action against the practice.

A 2012 study showed just how relatively common positioning errors actually occur. The study looked at 1,782 panoramic radiographs and found that 89 percent contained some form of positioning error. While 64 percent of the images met the criteria for being “diagnostically acceptable,” nearly a quarter (24.9 percent) were categorized “unacceptable.”

The most common errors observed were failure to position the tongue against palate (55.7 percent), slumped position (35 percent), patient positioned backward (30 percent) and patient positioned forward (18.3 percent). The study concluded that the quality of panoramic radiographs could be improved by careful attention to patient positioning.

Most panoramic X-ray manufacturers incorporate various tools and alignment devices that help dental staff properly position their patient. These can include everything from simple patient-support devices like chin rests and forehead supports to technologies such as laser guides and optical cameras that help position the patient along the major axes.

Some systems also have an operator panel that displays a preview of the captured image so it can be assessed prior to the patient being released.

Regardless of the sophisticated technology and tools available, it is unfortunately not possible for clinicians to fully control patient movement. That’s why it’s important that patients understand and follow basic instructions, such as biting on a bite stick, placing the tongue against the palate and refraining from swallowing and movement during the exam.

Many of the issues that lead to improper patient positioning can be mitigated with in-house staff training on the correct use of the system’s positioning tools and proper patient instruction. However, given the pace of busy dental practices, it is often difficult to schedule this type of training for the whole team. Also, staff turnover or reorganization of duties may require additional training sessions.

As a result, all manufacturers provide user guides that detail the proper use of the panoramic X-ray system, as well as online instructional videos and self-training modules for dental staff. In-office training is also an option that is provided by many system manufacturers.

The Midmark Progeny Vantage® Digital Panoramic System takes training support to a new level. The system’s VantageTouch operator panel features an user interface that displays sample exam images and enables users to access and view embedded training videos for training at point of use.

Midmark’s VantageTrust ongoing remote support and training service goes beyond the one-time, in-office training session to offer dentists and staff feedback on patient positioning in order to deliver the highest quality image possible. With the service, all panoramic images acquired with Midmark’s Vantage Panoramic System are sent securely over the practice’s Internet connection to the VantageTrust server for review. No patient information is collected or shared.

Midmark employs a combination of software and experienced personnel to review the images and provide feedback in the form of a report that details any patient positioning issues or visible artifacts, as well as tips for improving the image capture. To access the images and reports, practices simply log into the VantageTrust website.

Dentists can also access additional training videos and trend data, such as the number of images the practice sends through the service and the average number of images per day.

VantageTrust is available as a 60-day free trial with the purchase of a Vantage Digital Panoramic System. Existing customers who have not yet accessed their free trial are still eligible to register. After the trial period, the service can be extended for a nominal fee.

Contact your Midmark representative to learn how you can get the most out of your Vantage panoramic unit and start receiving the high-quality, accurate diagnostic images you need to provide the best care to your patients.

Reference
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In the growing market of commercially available hard- and soft-tissue lasers, the Fotona LightWalker™ still leads the charge with two proven wavelengths, Nd:YAG and Er:YAG, featuring unrivaled power and precise pulse control, resulting in high levels of efficacy for a wide spectrum of procedures, according to Fotona, the company behind the product.

The LightWalker offers a range of real applications for today’s dentists and the utility they demand for their practices now and in the future, according to the company. With high-speed tipped and tipless handpieces, clinical options are greatly expanded beyond traditional dentistry. LightWalker offers simplicity of use while maintaining a high standard of dental treatments such as:
- Endodontics
- Implantology
- Periodontics
- Conservative dentistry
- Soft-tissue surgery
- Esthetic treatments

NIGHTLASE

NIGHTLASE® has recently taken the ever-evolving dental world by storm, according to Fotona, appearing in countless news broadcasts across the country for its fast, non-invasive way of increasing the quality of a patient’s sleep.

Snoring and sleep disorders affect millions of Americans, both adults and children. The signs and symptoms are the result of partial or complete collapse of the upper airway during sleep.

Using the Fotona LightWalker in conjunction with this proprietary protocol, Er:YAG laser energy is distributed to heat the tissues of the soft palate, causing a tightening effect, which helps keep the patient’s airway open. As shown in several medical studies, NIGHTLASE has a significant success rate in producing a positive change in sleep patterns.

PIPS

When Fotona introduced the Photon-Induced Photoacoustic Streaming (PIPS™) technique, the LightWalker became a must-have endodontic powerhouse, according to the company. PIPS reaches almost 100 percent bacterial reduction. Not only does the LightWalker’s Er:YAG wavelength, which has the highest absorption rate in water, uniquely position the device to achieve results of this magnitude, but according to the company, the LightWalker is also the only system to feature 50-microsecond square pulse technology to maximize the propagation of the photo hydro acoustic shock waves.

Fotona was founded in 1964, four years after the first laser was invented, and has sold more than 25,000 lasers with distribution in more than 60 countries.
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