Scientists patent new substances to fight oral bacteria

Titanium-based materials shown to be effective against endodontic, periodontic and cariogenic bacteria

Researchers at the University of Washington's School of Dentistry have received a patent for a method of using titanium-based materials to control bacterial infections. They believe that the substances could be used in a patient's mouth after dental procedures to reduce the risk of infection or in mouthwashes and toothpastes to limit bacterial growth prophylactically.

For several years, the researchers have studied titanates and peroxotitanates, inorganic compounds that can inhibit bacterial growth when bound to metal ions. The researchers found these substances to be effective against endodontic, periodontic and cariogenic bacteria, indicating that the substances could be incorporated into gels or solutions that can be applied by dentists after treatments such as root canals or dental fillings.

Dr. Whasun Oh Chung, research associate professor at the school, explained that metals have been known to have antibacterial properties, but when used in concentrations high enough to be effective, they also carry the risk of toxic side effects. By using the new agent, however, therapeutic benefits can be achieved with less risk of toxicity.

The researchers are now conducting human trials. They expect to finish those in spring. If proven effective, the new agent could even be used in narrowly targeted treatments for internal organs, as well as in dental or medical materials and devices, Chung said.

(Source: University of Washington's School of Dentistry)
Dental spending stays flat

Dental care spending remained flat through 2012 over the prior year, in part because working-age adults are visiting dentists less frequently, with fewer people covered by employer-sponsored dental benefits, according to a new analysis released by the American Dental Association.

The research, conducted by the ADA Health Policy Resources Center, shows that additional factors in the spending patterns include improvements in oral health, the erosion of benefits provided by state Medicaid programs and fee reductions among many private insurers.

National dental care expenditure reached $111 billion in 2012, roughly the same as the previous year when adjusted for inflation. When population growth is taken into account, dental spending has been flat since 2008. The analysis covers three years of post-Great Recession recovery — suggesting that dental spending is not rebounding.

Overall U.S. health spending during the past four years has grown at the slowest rates ever recorded in the 53-year history of the National Health Expenditure Accounts, reflecting the lagged effects of the recent economic recession. Dental spending, however, began to slow in the early 2000s before the onset of the recession.

The elderly continue to be the age group with the highest level of dental spending, driven primarily by gains in private dental benefits and higher demand for care.

Read the full research brief at www.ada.org/sections/professionalassets/sources/HPBC Brief_2014_1.pdf.

The ADA has advocated for the public’s health and promoted the art and science of dentistry since 1859. Its research facilities develop and test dental products and materials that have advanced the practice of dentistry and made the patient experience more positive. The Journal of the American Dental Association is the ADA’s flagship publication and one of the most-read scientific journals in dentistry.

For more information about the ADA, visit www.ada.org. For more information on oral health, including prevention, care and treatment of dental disease, visit the ADA’s consumer website www.mouthhealthy.org.

(Sources: American Dental Association)

Report: Opportunities for growth within dental insurance industry

Dental insurance accounts for 9.1 percent of the broader health and medical insurance industry, according to a recently completed IBISWorld Industry report.

But there is plenty of room for growth, according to IBISWorld Industry analyst Stephen Hoopes. “An estimated 16 percent of domestic consumers lack medical insurance,” Hoopes said. “While estimates of the share of consumers lacking dental insurance range from 26 to 42 percent, there exists a dramatic difference between the two types of health care coverage.”

Traditionally, dental insurance has focused more on covering regular maintenance and preventative oral health treatments, while medical insurance emphasizes coverage of unpredictable and emergent health care needs. Consequently, according to the IBISWorld Industry report, dental care costs and industry revenue are typically more stable than medical costs.

During the past five years, a consistent increase in health care expenditure (e.g., medical cost inflation) boosted industry premia and drove revenue growth. However, lower policy enrollment figures during the recession mitigated the dental insurance industry’s performance during the period. Rising unemployment during the recession directly damaged industry revenue through declines in group coverage and indirectly through lower per-capita disposable income. Moreover, competition from direct reimbursement and discount dental plans have tempered profit margins in recent years. Yet, revenue growth is anticipated to have peaked up a slight 2 percent in 2013, primarily due to increases in workforce figures and disposable income levels,” Hoopes said.

During the five years to 2018, industry revenue is forecast to increase while the industry will benefit from an improving economic environment and favorable demographic trends, the enactment of health care reform provisions is expected to be the primary driver of growth. While 8.7 million children are anticipated to gain dental benefits under the PPACA, coverage for a larger number of children without dental benefits by 55 percent, only 5.3 million adults are expected to gain coverage under the law.

The dental insurance industry operates with a medium level of market share concentration. The top companies in the industry are MetLife Inc, Delta Dental and Aetna. Industry concentration has increased during the five-year period, with industry concentration rising over time. The top companies in the industry are MetLife Inc, Delta Dental and Aetna. Industry concentration has increased during the five-year period, with the top few companies in the industry accounting for a larger percentage of total industry revenue.

The dental insurance industry’s performance during the period has mirrored these trends in the broader health and medical insurance industry, according to the IBISWorld report (No. 52411b).

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According to the IBISWorld report (No. 52411b), the dental insurance industry’s performance during the period has mirrored these trends in the broader health and medical insurance industry, according to the IBISWorld report (No. 52411b).
Dentistry jobs take two top-10 slots on magazine’s list of 100 best jobs

U.S. News releases annual ranking

By Robert Selleck, Managing Editor

“Dentist” and “hygienist” are again in the top 10 jobs on the U.S. News & World Report annual ranking of the top 100 jobs in the country, with “dentist” at No. 4 (down from its top ranking last year) and “hygienist” at No. 10 (same as last year).

The median salaries the magazine listed for each of the two dental professions both slightly increased compared with last year, rising to $143,240 from $142,740 for dentists and to $70,210 from $69,280 for hygienists.

The top two jobs that knocked “dentist” down two pegs were both technology positions: No. 1, software developer, was No. 7 last year, and No. 2, computer systems analyst, was No. 4 last year. According to the magazine, this is the first time its top pick was a technology job.

The magazine ranks jobs based on criteria it considers to be most important to job seekers: 10-year growth volume, 10-year growth percentage, median salary, employment rate, future job prospects, stress level and work-life balance.

Various sub-lists rank jobs across a number of industry sectors. Among the “best health care jobs,” dentist is No. 1 and dental hygienist is No. 7.

The magazine noted that according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the source for most of the criteria measured to create the list, existing health care workers need to be retained, but more also are needed — especially to fill growing numbers of health care support jobs.

“Here’s how the magazine summed up the dentistry profession. ‘The need for professionals to examine our teeth, fill and — gulp — refill our cavities isn’t fading. Patients also have a particular interest in dental care treatments from dentists, such as teeth whitening, and this also drives demand for hygienists. In the same industry sector Unemployment statistics also are listed. The complete U.S. News report can be seen at www.money.usnews.com/careers/best-jobs/rankings.

About U.S. News & World Report

Focusing on health, personal finance, education, travel, cars and public service opinion, U.S. News has earned a reputation as a leading provider of service news and information.

U.S. News & World Report’s signature franchise includes its News You Can Use® brand of journalism and its annual “Best” series of consumer Web guides and printed publications that compile data-driven rankings of colleges, graduate schools, hospitals, mutual funds, health plans and more.

U.S. News & World Report:
2014: The 100 Best Jobs (Top 10)

1. Software Developer
   (Overall Score 8.4/Median Salary $90,060)
2. Computer Systems Analyst
   (Overall Score 8.2/Median Salary $79,680)
3. Dentist
   (Overall Score 8.2/Median Salary $143,240)
4. Nurse Practitioner
   (Overall Score 8.1/Median Salary $89,960)
5. Pharmacist
   (Overall Score 8.1/Median Salary $116,670)
6. Registered Nurse
   (Overall Score 8.0/Median Salary $65,470)
7. Physical Therapist
   (Overall Score 7.9/Median Salary $79,860)
8. Physician
   (Overall Score 7.8/Median Salary $87,199)
9. Web Developer
   (Overall Score 7.8/Median Salary $63,780)
10. Dental Hygienist
    (Overall Score 7.7/Median Salary $62,500)
Chicago Dental Society’s Midwinter Meeting, Feb. 20–22, is one of the industry’s biggest

The 149th Chicago Dental Society Midwinter Meeting, featuring more than 200 lectures, demonstrations and participa-
tion courses — and more than 600 ex-
hbit booths — is Feb. 20–22 at Chicago’s McCormick Place West. The meeting typi-
cally attracts around 30,000 attendees, making it one of the biggest dental meet-
ings in North America.

The 2014 meeting’s theme is “The Bridge: Past, Present and Future.”

The exhibit hall is open from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. on all three days of the meeting.

In addition to the full-registration op-
tions, exhibit-only passes are available to ADA dentists, international dentists and non-ADA dentists. That pass, sold on site,
does not allow entry into any of the course rooms, including free course rooms. However, it does pro-
vide access to the live patient demonstra-
tions in the theater on the exhibit floor — and lets you earn a daily C.E. credit hour just by exploring. Signs in the exhibit hall
near the Overlook Café provide the C.E. code need for the C.E. verification form.

The televising of the live patient dem-

onstrations on the exhibit floor has been expanded for the 2014 meeting. Attend-
es will be able to view the daily demo-
nstrations in a theater constructed on the east side of the exhibit hall, near the Starbucks entrance to the hall. Details are available in the course descriptions sec-
tion for each day’s program.

Online registration for the meeting at www.cds.org was scheduled to end Feb. 14, after which registration will be available on site. Typically, approximately 3,000 attendees register on site for the meet-
ing between 7:30 a.m. and noon on each of the first two days of the event, so be prepared for a line. General registration will be open on all three days of the meet-
ing from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. in McCormick Place West, Level 3 Concourse.

Access to most of the scientific pro-
gramming offered at the meeting is included as part of the registration fee, which varies based on a range of registra-
tion criteria. Note, too, that the registra-
tion fee (but not the registration process) is waived for the 2014 meeting for Chica-

grobal Knowledge of Implant Dentistry. The
course focuses on immediate implant
fabrication. In addition to showing the
possibilities of in-office same-day resto-
ration, the demonstration covers coop-
erative restoration design and fabrication options with laboratories. The session is
worth three C.E. hours.

Saturday’s live patient demonstration, from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., is “Clinical Approaches for Extraction: Immediate Implantation, Provisionalization,” with
Michael Miloro, DMD, MD, and Matthew Hallas, DMD. The session is for dentists who have a surgical background and ba-
sic knowledge of implant dentistry. The
course focuses on immediate implant

techinques following tooth removal. The
demonstration is worth three C.E. hours.

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gramming offered at the meeting is

The demonstration, “Contemporary
Implant and Periodontal Therapy,” is pre-
sented by Nolen Levine, DDS, and Carl Misch, DDS, MSD. Techniques covered in-
clude sinus grafting, Ramus Onlay Graft-
ing, implant placement, root coverage
and flip surgery for pocket elimination
and crown lengthening.

Live patient demonstrations

The live patient demonstrations on

Thursday are from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.,
and from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. Each session is
worth three C.E. hours for a total of six.
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Implant and Periodontal Therapy,” is pre-
sented by Nolen Levine, DDS, and Carl
Misch, DDS, MSD. Techniques covered in-
clude sinus grafting, Ramus Onlay Graft-
ing, implant placement, root coverage
and flip surgery for pocket elimination
and crown lengthening.

On Friday, the live patient demonstra-
tion will be from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.,
with “The Evolution of Digital Restorative
Dentistry,” by Alex Touchstone, DDS, An-
gela Guanzini, CDD, RDH, and Lee Culp,
CDT, considered three of the leading
dental professionals in digital dentistry.

A live restorative procedure with a metal-
free restoration will be completed in a single session, with chairside design and fabrication. In addition to showing the possibilities of in-office same-day resto-
ration, the demonstration covers coop-
erative restoration design and fabrication options with laboratories. The session is
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Special events include new dentists

reception, music, fashion, more

The Chicago Dental Society welcomes
new dentists with a reception for those
who have been in the profession for 10 or
fewer years. The Friday, Feb. 21, event pro-
vides recent dental school graduates and
other newer dentists the opportunity to
enjoy cocktails, food and conversation
with one another. The reception will be
from 5 – 6:30 p.m. at 270 restaurant, Level
2, in McCormick Place West. Tickets are
$10 each through advanced registration
and $20 on site.

Other special events include a mentor
luncheon, opening session, fashion show,
Friday night concert and the CDA presi-
dent’s dinner dance.

All of the special events are ticketed. For
those who do not order tickets when reg-
ing, tickets may also be available on
site on Thursday morning, Feb. 20, at Mc-
Cormick Place at the special events ticket
counter in the registration area, Level 3.

Concourse, subject to availability
The 2014 Pacific Dental Conference, from March 6–8 (Thursday, Friday and Saturday) in Vancouver, British Columbia, will feature a varied selection of open C.E. sessions, hands-on courses and a live dentistry stage.

One registration fee gives access to all 144 open sessions, which means no pre-selection of courses is necessary.

More than 135 speakers, with topics of interest to the entire dental team

The variety of topics covered by more than 135 speakers means the entire dental team can access the latest information on dental technology, techniques and materials.

Speakers in the 2014 lineup include John Kois, John Cranham, Sergio Kutler, Greg Psaltis, Ross Nash, Derek Mahony, Rob Roda, Louis Malcachner, Bart Johnson, Jesse Miller, Rhonda Savage and Nancy Andrews.

Event includes University of British Columbia Speakers Series

With the University of British Columbia Faculty of Dentistry celebrating its 50th anniversary, the PDC will present the “UBC Speakers Series,” with UBC alumni addressing a variety of topics.

The Live Dentistry Stage is back in the exhibit hall, with demonstrations on Thursday and Friday. On Saturday, the “So You Think You Can Speak?” program features 50-minute presentations by speakers who responded to a call for presentations and were accepted by the meeting’s scientific committee. A number of timely dentistry topics will be covered.

Two-day exhibit hall

The exhibit hall promises to be busy with more than 300 companies projected to fill approximately 600 booths. Exhibition hours are 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Thursday and 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. on Friday.

Special hotel rates are available to attendees, with early booking recommended to ensure availability.

Reservations can be made directly with conference hotels via the links on www.pdconf.com.

(Source: Pacific Dental Conference)
The 44th edition of the Journées dentistes internationales du Québec will take place from May 23–27 at the Palais des congrès de Montréal.

Hosting the Association of Prosthodontists of Canada
One of the biggest changes with the 2014 edition of the meeting is that the JDIQ will host the Association of Prosthodontists of Canada. Among the benefits expected from this joint venture, which also involves the Association of Prosthodontists of Quebec, will be a larger number of top speakers in implant and restorative dentistry — and a presence at the meeting of a larger number of prosthodontists from across Canada. The annual meeting of the Ordre des dentistes du Québec continues to be one of the highest-attended dental meetings in North America. In 2014, meeting organizers expect to host more than 12,000 delegates from around the world.

More than 100 lectures and workshops in English and French
The meeting will feature a scientific program with more than 100 lectures and workshops presented in English and French. The JDIQ meeting is described by organizers as being Canada’s most highly attended bilingual convention.

More than 225 exhibitors will occupy approximately 500 booths in the exhibit hall, making it one of the largest in Canada. The exhibition will be open Monday and Tuesday, May 26 and 27, and it will feature a continental breakfast on both days for the early risers as well as a wine and cheese reception to close out both afternoons.

Featured 2014 speakers already in the lineup include Drs. Dale Miles, Robert Langlais, Steven Olmos, Stephen Niemczyk, Manor Hass, Jonathan Bregman, Michael Di Tolla, Gerry Kugel, Karl Koerner, Joe Blais, Jason Smithson, Brian Novy, Ken Harre Barnes, Thomas Dudney, Robert Gutneck, Tieraona Low-Dog and James Mah, to name just a few.

For more information about the meeting, you can call (800) 361-4887; visit online at www.odq.qc.ca — or you can send an email to congres@odq.qc.ca.

(Source: Ordre des dentistes du Québec)

Hands-on implants training in Jamaica is with real patients

The American Academy of Implant Prosthodontics (AAIP) will join with its affiliates, Atlantic Dental Implant Seminars (ADIS) and the Linkow Implant Institute, to present a basic five-day comprehensive implant training program in Kingston, Jamaica, at the University of Technology, School of Oral Health Sciences, from July 2–6.

The AAIP basic course (Level 1) will include lectures, surgical and prosthodontic demonstrations, hands-on participation on anatomic mannequins and cadavers, diagnosis and treatment planning of implant cases, the construction of surgical templates, diagnostic wax-ups, the insertion of two to six implants by each participant, and sinus lifts under supervision of the course faculty.

Upon completion of the 35-hour comprehensive implant training program, participating clinicians will be able to accomplish the following tasks: identify cases suitable for dental implants, diagnose and treatment plan for preservation and restoration of edentulous and partially edentulous arches, demonstrate competency in the placement...
of single-tooth implants, soft tissue management and bone augmentation; obtain an ideal implant occlusion, work as part of an implant team with other professionals, and incorporate implant treatment into private practice with quality results, cost effectiveness and profitability.

Implant treatment will be performed on provided patients in the dental clinic of the University of Technology, School of Oral Health Sciences, in Kingston, with personalized training in small group settings. The course is a cooperative effort of the Jamaican Ministry of Health, the University of Technology, School of Dental Sciences, Kingston, Jamaica, and the American Academy of Implant Prosthodontics.

A dental degree is required for all participants. The course is tax deductible, and 35 hours of dental continuing education credits are awarded on course completion. No malpractice insurance is required for course participants.

Dr. Mike Shulman is course coordinator, Dr. Leonard I. Linkow is course director and Dr. Sheldon Winkler is course adviser. Course faculty, in addition to Shulman, Linkow and Winkler, include Drs. Robert Braun, Ira L. Eisenstein, E. Richard Hughes, Charles S. Mandell, Virgilio Mongalo, Harold F. Morris and Roberto Russo.

Implants and components for AAIP/ADIS implant seminars are provided by Optimum Solutions Group. Dental laboratory support is provided by DCA Laboratory Inc., Citrus Heights, Calif., and Dani Dental Studio, Tempe, Ariz.

Founded by Dr. Maurice J. Fagan Jr. in 1982 at the School of Dentistry, Medical College of Georgia, the Academy of Implant Prosthodontics exists to support and foster the practice of implant prosthodontics as an integral component of dentistry.

The academy supports component and affiliate implant associations around the world, including organizations in Egypt, France, Italy, Israel, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Paraguay, Peru and Thailand.


American Academy of Implant Prosthodontics is designated as an approved PACE program provider by the Academy of General Dentistry. The formal continuing education programs of this program provider are accepted by AGD for fellowship, mastership and membership maintenance credit. The current term of approval extends through Dec. 31, 2015.

Complete information on the AAIP/ADIS Jamaica implant continuing education programs, including tuition, faculty lectures, transportation and hotel accommodations, can be obtained from the course website, www.adiseminars.com, or by calling (551) 655-1909. AAIP membership information can be obtained from the AAIP headquarters at 8672 East Eagle Claw Drive, Scottsdale, AZ 85266-1058, telephone (480) 588-8062; fax (480) 588-8296; or online from the AAIP website at www.aaipusa.com.
Greater New York Dental Meeting adds new events

Next meeting is Nov. 28 through Dec. 3

A number of new events are already on the schedule for the 2014 Greater New York Dental Meeting. Some highlights:

• The World Implant Expo, four days of innovations in implantology
• An expanded ColLABoration Dental Laboratory Meeting, bringing together dentists and techs in a highly interactive environment
• An expanded exhibit floor with more than 1,700 exhibit booths filled by more than 700 companies

CollABoration, the dental laboratory meeting presented with Aegis Publishing, is expected to surpass its inaugural 2013 numbers: 1,183 technicians and technician students, 50 exhibitor booths and two classrooms for seminars and workshops.

The new World Implant Expo will be held simultaneously with the main Greater New York Dental Meeting, from Nov. 28 through Dec. 3.

The 2014 GNYDM exhibit hall dates will be from Nov. 30 through Dec. 3.

Again for 2014, the GNYDM, which is sponsored by the New York County Dental Society and Second District Dental Societies, will remain free of any registration fee.

Four days of exhibits

Other distinctions that help make the GNYDM stand out include:
• Only event with four-day exhibit hall
• More than 300 educational programs
• One C.E. unit for exploring the exhibit floor
• Eight “Live Patient Demonstrations”
• Multilingual programs (in Spanish, Russian, Portuguese, French and Italian)

Three major airports — Newark Liberty (EWR), Kennedy (JFK) and La Guardia (LGA) — and hotel discounts make it easy for professionals to attend the meeting and enjoy all that New York City has to offer during the holiday season. Learn more at www.gnydm.com.

(Source: Greater New York Dental Meeting)
Popcorn kernels, hard candy or ice... no worries!

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- **DURABILITY:** No color changes, no odor absorption, no metal frame

- **BIOCOMPATIBILITY:** Solid zirconia is hypoallergenic and has been shown in clinical studies to be wear compatible with enamel

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1. Glidewell Laboratories internal data
2. Clinicians Report, TRAC Research, June 2012

*Price does not include multi-unit abutments, shipping or applicable taxes.

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www.glidewelldental.com
Oral health intersects with overall health at Yankee Dental Congress

By Fred Michmershuizen
Dental Tribune

More than 300 continuing education courses were offered at the 39th Yankee Dental Congress. According to meeting organizers, “It All Starts Here” — the theme of this year’s meeting — was all about the important relationship between good oral health and good overall health.

In the lecture halls, course offerings covered everything from tooth whitening to advanced periodontal instrumentation techniques.

Education in exhibit hall
There was also plenty of learning to be had on the exhibit hall floor, with classrooms and special pavilions focusing on topics such as healthy living, social media and live dentistry.

John Sorensen, DMD, PhD, and Sam Simos, DDS, focused on restorative dentistry. Bart Johnson, DDS, worked on bringing the intersection of overall health and oral health to light in his general dentistry seminar.

For those looking to increase their practice management skills, courses were offered by Kirk Behrendt, Jennifer Blackmon, Mark Hyman, DDS, Lisa Gualtieri, PhD, Rachel Mele and Chris Scappatura.

In addition, William Wilson, DDS, covered prosthodontics, and Chris Baker, DMD, RN, and Wick Alexander, DDS, discussed topics in orthodontics.

A dental marketplace on the exhibit hall floor was filled with the latest products and technological advances, and social activities provided attendees a chance to network with fellow professionals in dentistry.

More than 450 exhibitors
Among the many highlights that were available to visitors to the exhibit hall:

- Attendees could find a flossing system resembling miniature nunchucks at GumChucks at Oral Wise.
- The Stick, a division of RPI of Atlanta had a “toothbrush for your muscles, a self massaging tool that provides relief for muscle pain and soreness.
- Philips Sonicare & Zoom Whitening introduced a black electric toothbrush.
- In addition to products and services, the exhibit hall offered continuing education courses right on the show floor Catapult Continuum, new to YDC.

• The 2014 Yankee Dental Congress exhibit hall at the Boston Convention and Exhibition Center, alive with activity. (Source: Yankee Dental Congress)
NOMAD Pro 2: Holds charge longer, is more durable and reliable

For almost a decade, Aribex has been quietly ripping the X-ray system off the wall and putting it into the hands of the dental team. Aribex manufactures a handheld, completely mobile X-ray system called the NOMAD. According to the company, one NOMAD does the work of multiple, wall-mounted X-ray systems, which can save the typical dental practice thousands of dollars in equipment costs. Moreover, because the NOMAD enables dental team members to safely and effectively stay with their patients during X-ray procedures, a bitewing series can be completed in half the time required by a wall-mounted system.

Unlike conventional wall-mount and portable X-ray systems, the NOMAD is lightweight, rechargeable (battery-powered) and can go anywhere. Dental professionals around the world have been choosing the NOMAD as their preferred X-ray device, in and out of the office, with almost 13,000 NOMADs now in use. Building upon the successes of previous innovation and design, Aribex recently introduced the NOMAD Pro 2, providing the same mobile convenience and cost savings as previous models while increasing durability and performance.

“The Pro 2 is exactly what our customers want,” said Ken Kaufman, general manager of Aribex. “We asked our customers how we could improve our marquee product. We listened, designed prototypes, asked for feedback and iterated until we met their requests. The end result of all of that hard work is the Pro 2. It’s simply the world’s best handheld X-ray system yet.”

The newly designed battery handset, with infrared connectors, together with a new charging cradle, improves the system’s durability and boosts battery performance. “One consistent comment we heard from our customers focused on the charging station,” said Kaufman. “Our engineers spent hours working with customers, researching new solutions. Our final design is a big improvement, and our customers will agree.”

Durability also is enhanced by a reengineered user interface that is more scratch and moisture resistant. “The operational environment can be hard on equipment, particularly with our products that are easily carried from operatory to operatory,” said Kaufman. “The NOMAD Pro 2 will stand up to repetitive antiseptic and cross-contamination control.”

Use your old NOMAD Dental to save on (or win) a new NOMAD Pro 2

If you have an old, 8.5-pound, working NOMAD Dental, and the improved, sleeker, 5.5-pound NOMAD Pro 2 sounds appealing, visit www.aribex.com/trade-in to learn how you can get a $1,400 rebate when you trade in for a NOMAD Pro 2. Trade in the oldest working NOMAD out there, and you’ll be in the running to win a free NOMAD Pro 2.

To learn more, contact your equipment dealer, an Aribex sales representative or visit www.aribex.com. “We’re excited to show our customers our new innovations and enhancements,” said Kaufman. “We invite our customers to visit our exhibit at booth No. 1009 at the Chicago Midwinter Dental Meeting for a special demonstration of our new NOMAD Pro 2.”

(Source: Aribex)
Utilizing a digital workflow for provisionalization with BioTempss

Case illustrates that digital impressions aren’t limited to final restorations and single units

By Tarun Agarwal, DDS, PA

Today’s digital impression technology enables dentists to create a virtual, computer-generated replica of the hard and soft tissues in the mouth quickly and accurately using their choice of optical scanning device. As an ardent supporter of digital impressions, I make every attempt to digitize our restorative workflow. There are numerous benefits to a digital impression:
- Efficiency: It takes less time to take a digital impression than a traditional impression.
- Quicker turnaround time: Clinicians often forget or fail to realize the true value of this. Getting restorations back faster is better for the patient, the practice and the overall case outcome.
- Cost savings: Have you ever calculated the cost of taking a traditional impression for a final restoration? If you add up what your office spends on impression materials, chair time and case shipping fees, you will be amazed at how much is spent on traditional methods.

Cost savings:
- Quicker turnaround time:
- Efficiency:
- Clinicians often forget or fail to realize the true value of this. Getting restorations back faster is better for the patient, the practice and the overall case outcome.
- Have you ever calculated the cost of taking a traditional impression for a final restoration? If you add up what your office spends on impression materials, chair time and case shipping fees, you will be amazed at how much is spent on traditional methods.

Case presentation
The female featured in this article has been a patient in our practice for nearly eight years. She has a porcelain-fused-to-metal bridge from tooth #15 to #12 replacing missing #7 to #10. She is not terribly unhappy with the look and feel of the bridge, but the bridge has been no stranger to the big issue facing PFM restorations: the chipping of porcelain from the metal substructure. During the past eight years, we have patched various corners and lingual surfaces.

Recently, the patient agreed to replace her long-span PFM bridge with an implant-supported bridge on #7 to #10 and individual crowns on the abutment teeth. However, she was adamant about not going a day without teeth. We advised her that this would not be an issue.

Because of the complexity of her implant surgery, immediate loading was not possible. This meant we needed a long-term esthetic provisional that would last the duration of the treatment, could be removed for surgery and was adjustable for post-surgical contouring.

A BioTemp® provisional bridge (Glidewell Laboratories; Newport Beach, Calif.) was the quick and easy answer. Traditionally, BioTempes are made prior to preparation and relined chairside. In this case, I wanted to have the BioTempes made to fit the final preparations of the abutment teeth, which would later be converted to individual restorations.

As an advocate of digital impressions, I chose to follow a digital workflow.

Case illustrates that digital impressions aren’t limited to final restorations and single units, and certainly not just to single units. It’s time for you to take a closer look at digital restorative technologies and see how they can benefit your practice and your patients.

About the author
DR. TARUN AGARWAL maintains a full-time private practice emphasizing esthetic, restorative and implant dentistry in Raleigh, N.C. You can contact him via e-mail at dra2@raleighdentalarts.com or visit www.raleighdentalarts.com.
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America’s ToothFairy Smile Drive to benefit thousands of at-risk children

Designed to raise awareness and collect oral care products for at-risk children and teens, the America’s ToothFairy Smile Drive is being held in February, which is National Children’s Dental Health Month. Activities in communities nationwide include oral health educational presentations and Meet the ToothFairy screenings. Donated toothbrushes, toothpaste, floss and rinse will benefit local America’s ToothFairy affiliates, Boys & Girls Clubs of America and other non-profit organizations serving vulnerable populations.

Among those helping with the campaign are volunteer dental professionals, members of the America’s ToothFairy affiliate network of non-profit children’s oral health programs; and Students United with America’s ToothFairy national youth movement partners, which includes HOSA-Future Health Professionals. America’s ToothFairy Smile Drive boxes can be found in 3,900 Walmart locations, where oral care products can be dropped off for local at-risk youth — and free Kid’s Activity Packs can be picked up. The packs include ToothFairy 101 educational activities, America’s ToothFairy Kids Club membership cards — and coupons from Crest, Oral-B and Walmart. Patrons donating to the America’s ToothFairy Smile Drive can share their experience by snapping a selfie and using the hashtag #SmileDrive2014 on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram.

“We are so grateful that Walmart, an America’s ToothFairy proud underwriter, is helping to ensure children across the nation benefit from our National Children’s Dental Health Month campaign,” said Fern Ingber, National Children’s Oral Health Foundation president and CEO. “Its participation in the America’s ToothFairy Smile Drive, combined with support from Kid’s Crest and Oral-B Stages products at Walmart, will help promote healthy smiles for all children while helping to give at-risk youth the tools they need to prevent the pain and embarrassment associated with tooth decay.”

The Boys & Girls Clubs of America (the primary beneficiary of the America’s ToothFairy Smile Drive — and program partner of National Children’s Oral Health Foundation: America’s ToothFairy) are strong supporters of healthy lifestyles of the youth they serve. Through the America’s ToothFairy Youth Mentoring Program, the Boys & Girls Clubs of America provide oral health mentoring activities.

“We are honored to be the primary beneficiary of the America’s ToothFairy Smile Drive and are excited clubs nationwide will receive vital oral care products,” said Linda Witze, national vice president of healthy lifestyles at Boys & Girls Clubs of America. “This program combined with the America’s ToothFairy Youth Mentoring Program and restorative care will encourage the young people we serve to live healthier lives — and give them the resources they need to be successful.”

The National Children’s Oral Health Foundation: America’s ToothFairy was formed in 2006 as an aggressive response to eliminate pediatric dental disease by providing community programs with comprehensive resources to deliver educational, preventive and treatment services to children most in need. Supporting the delivery of oral health education and care beginning at the prenatal level, America’s ToothFairy (Canada’s ToothFairy in Canada) engages caring dental professionals and the public in programs that promote children’s oral health.

Through underwriters such as Walmart and support from Kid’s Crest and Oral-B Stages products at Walmart, America’s ToothFairy has reached millions of children through its non-profit clinical network, Kids Club and volunteer professional and student community service programs. For more information, you can visit www.AmericasToothFairy.org.

(Source: National Children’s Oral Health Foundation: America’s ToothFairy)
Komet USA’s F360 root-canal system simplifies treatment

By Komet USA Staff

The Komet® brand is internationally recognized for its precision-engineered rotary dental instruments. According to the company, the name has long been associated with attention to design and construction detail, high manufacturing standards and integrated instrument systems to meet the daily treatment requirements — and more complicated patient-care challenges — facing general and specialist practitioners. With a 90-plus-year history of melding tradition with innovation and superior products with responsive customer service and direct sales, the company is known not only for its comprehensive range of diamonds and burs but for its endodontic instruments and post-treatment restorative options. Komet has been in the endodontic-instrument business for years, producing, among other items, stainless-steel hand files, K-files and Hedstroem files, which continue their usefulness and popularity, as well as a selection of root-post systems to facilitate post-treatment restoration.

Speed, ease, economy, safety

Seeking to address the growing number of root-canal cases now treated in U.S. general-dental practices, Komet closely examined the challenges of speed, ease of use, economy and safety and tasked its R&D, design, engineering and manufacturing specialists with meeting these requirements. The need for endodontic services has expanded in line with demographic shifts, and, within the dental community, general practices now provide almost all types and levels of treatment. General dentists are referring less to specialists, and general dentists who previously focused exclusively on cosmetic dentistry or family dentistry, for instance, have moved from being generalists with a specialty to being true generalists.

Komet’s objective with the development of the F360™ files was to address the needs of approximately 90 percent of the endodontic cases general practitioners encounter among their patients and to appeal to the practice style of U.S. dentists. Toward that end, the Komet team began with the idea of minimizing the number of files required for endodontic treatment, seeking to offer some distinct advantages over other root-canal preparation systems.

Now constituting the heart of the Komet endodontic-instrument systems is one of Komet USA’s latest and most innovative product launches: the F360™ root-canal preparation system, a system Komet calls "undeni-
Family-owned Flow Dental adds to its digital imaging product line

By Flow Dental Staff

Conversion from film to digital takes many forms. It’s not just the dental office that is moving from film to digital imaging. Flow Dental, long a leading manufacturer of dental film and film accessories, has also transformed its product portfolio to include unique products essential to every dental practice that has gone digital. “We determined that our relevancy in a digital world would hinge on our ability to provide dentists with accessories that improve sensor or PSP [phosphor storage plate] usage and augment procedure throughput and productivity, while helping to extend the life and usage of the phosphor plates,” said Lars Winters, president of Flow Dental. “Dentists have really responded to our digital offerings, who report that the design dramatically reduces the amount of time required for diagnostic procedures. This change affects speed and simplicity — enabling faster, simpler root canal preparations.”

The Komet F360 endodontic file system permits preparation of most root canals with a simplified, time-saving sequence requiring only two files. Highly flexible to minimize canal transportation, the files’ unique S-curve design and a thin instrument core provide cutting efficiency while respecting natural root-canal morphology. Only two files in sizes 0.05 and 0.03 are required for most root-canal preparations. Their 0.04 taper promotes optimal debridement of the canal, maintains file flexibility and thus reduces preparation errors and permits ideal shaping of the root canal for subsequent obturation with any method.

The F360 files are employed in a torque-limited motor and used in a picking motion up to a predetermined working length. The same torque (1.8 Ncm) and speed values (350-350 rpm) are used for all files; dentists need not adjust speed or torque upon changing files during the preparation sequence. In addition to sizes 0.05 and 0.03, the F360 files are offered in sizes 0.05 and 0.03 to meet additional clinical situations, such as wide roots, and all F360 files are available in three lengths (L1, L2 and L3) to address varying coronal requirements. The presterilized, single-use files prevent cross-contamination, eliminate the need to clean, disinfect and sterilize the instruments — and reduce the risk of fracture due to cyclic fatigue.

Available in a sterile blister pack of six files of a single size and length, the files are supplied with a user’s manual and step-by-step instructions. The Komet F360 root-canal preparation system also is available in a special Endo Introductory Kit, which includes 12 F360 files in size 0.05, 12 F360 files in size 0.03, the Komet AK10 file for pre-enlargement of the canal, a pack of paper points and a pack of gutta-percha points.

About Komet USA

Celebrating its 91st year in the dental industry, Komet is a recognized worldwide leader in the production of highly specialized, precision dental rotary instruments.

Komet operates in the United States under the name Komet USA and sells directly to dental practitioners and dental laboratories. The company’s U.S. headquarters is in Rock Hill, S.C. For more information about Komet USA or the F360 endodontic file system, call (888) 566-3887 or visit www.komet-usa.com.
Healthgrades: where prospective patients go to find a dentist in 2014

By Sesame Communications Staff

When consumers fire up their web browsers, the vast majority of them start at a search engine. According to research from Pew Internet, 93 percent of online activities begin with a search. Health is a popular topic: 72 percent of Internet users looked online for health information within the past year.

Today, the No. 1 source for new patients searching and scheduling appointments with health care providers in the U.S. is Healthgrades.

Each year, more than 225 million visitors use the www.healthgrades.com website to search, evaluate and connect with health care providers that best meet their treatment needs. Healthgrades visitors represent the ideal demographic for dentistry. They are overwhelmingly female (72 percent), highly educated (84 percent have some post-secondary education) and affluent (52 percent have annual household incomes greater than $75,000).

Healthgrades offers dental practices a large, highly focused audience of prospective patients. During the past 12 months, Healthgrades tracked more than 20 million searches for dental care providers. Most importantly, Healthgrades users don’t just search — they schedule appointments. More than half (54 percent) of Healthgrades visitors will schedule an appointment.

Any way you slice it, Healthgrades visitors are an ideal target audience for growth-minded dental care providers. So what should your practice do to harness this traffic and fill your schedule?

Healthgrades has established a partnership with Sesame Communications, and dentists

Every year, more than 225 million visitors go to www.healthgrades.com to find health care providers. Photo/Provided by Sesame Communications
Program offers fast track to ownership

By Aspen Dental Staff

Many dentists aspire to owning their own practice. And sooner rather than later.
The Aspen Dental Practice Ownership Program prepares you and gets you there quicker. While serving as a managing dentist, you’ll have access to various training resources — from online education to a leadership retreat. Within two years, you’ll likely be ready.
You can own as many offices as you wish and, in certain cases, gain access to capital. Some managing dentists partner with the owners where they work, while others open new offices in new locations. Whichever route you take, Aspen Dental will support you all the way.
As an Aspen Dental practice owner, you’ll enjoy the benefits of being a successful business owner without worrying about the day-to-day details of running the business. Aspen Dental takes care of the paperwork, billing, hiring and marketing to ensure a continuous flow of new patients. That way, you can focus on treating those patients. Doesn’t that sound like the practice of your dreams?
To learn more about how you could become a practice owner in two years or less, visit Aspen Dental online at www.AspenDentaljobs.com.
Optimize workflow and patient throughput with the FireCR Dental Reader

By 3DISC Staff

3DISC Imaging has added features to its full-featured FireCR Dental solution, focusing on automating processes in dental clinics while enabling better patient care. Because automated processes are key to efficient workflow, the FireCR Dental Reader combines elegant design with a powerful yet easy-to-use system.

According to the company, the FireCR Dental Reader is a compact and affordable computed radiography system designed to provide fast, high-quality reading of reusable dental imaging plates. The FireCR Dental Reader’s small footprint — about the size of a shoebox — allows it to integrate into even the most space-challenged dental offices and exam rooms.

The small size and affordable price mean that it can be placed in each exam room, allowing faster diagnosis and streamlined patient care. A true size 4c imaging plate eliminates the need for software stitching to combine images from two size 3 plates — a time consuming and inefficient process.

The automated feeding tray offers “push and go” functionality, making it simple to operate. According to the company, features such as the FireID Reader, QuantorDent Imaging Software and QuantorTab app enhance efficiency for busy dental practices — enabling greater focus on offering the best care to patients.

The FireID RFID Reader ensures quick and accurate registration of key data to the correct patient file, including the scanned image and imaging plate size and serial number — critical for busy dental practices.

With the QuantorDent software — image acquisition, processing and management have never been easier, according to the company. The chronological and intuitive workflow helps you crop, etch, enhance, increase brightness, etc., on the images to enable a more precise diagnosis. The interface is DICOM-compliant and compatible with HIS, RIS, PACS and local databases.

After making a diagnosis on a PC, dentists can easily review images on the QuantorTab software app. The software features an easy-to-use touch screen interface that provides dentists with immediate access to a patient’s dental images, allowing interactive chairside review about treatment options. You can easily download the free QuantorTab app from an app store for use on tablet computers.

About 3DISC Imaging
3DISC Imaging specializes in high-quality imaging products for the dental, medical and veterinary markets. The company bases the devices and imaging software on wishes expressed by the market. This results in highly productive, compact CR readers with an uncompromising image quality at an affordable price.

The company has developed strong distribution networks all over the world. With general management anchored in the U.S. office — and with offices in Europe and Asia — 3DISC Imaging is able to bring core competencies and skill sets from all over the world and meld them into something that responds well to every need on a global level.

You can visit 3DISC Imaging at booth No. 3846 at the Chicago Midwinter Meeting or learn more online at www.3DISCimaging.com.
Barrier protection is critical in dental professionals’ gloves

Main purpose is enhanced safety of both patients and users

While caring for their patients, dental and health care professionals are constantly exposed to bodily fluids that may carry viruses and other infectious agents. It is therefore critical that the gloves these professionals use provide the best possible barrier protection. Many types of gloves are available today, but it is important to know that not all gloves have the same barrier capability, depending on the type of material used. For example, natural rubber latex gloves have long been acknowledged for their very effective barrier properties, while non-latex gloves, such as vinyl (polyvinyl chloride), have inferior barrier capability as shown by numerous studies.

Other synthetic gloves, such as nitrile and polysoprene, perform much better than vinyl but are more costly, especially polyisoprene gloves. Using gloves with inferior barrier capability could expose both the patient and user to harmful infections.

Quality, safety top priorities
Malaysia is the world’s largest medical gloves exporter (latex and nitrile). Both quality and users’ safety are of top priority to the nation’s glove industry. To this end, a quality certification program (the Standard Malaysian Gloves, or the SMG) has currently been formulated for latex examination gloves. All SMG-certified gloves must comply with stringent technical specifications to ensure the gloves are high in barrier effectiveness, low in protein and low in allergy risks, in addition to having excellent comfort, fit and durability — qualities that manufacturers of many synthetic gloves are trying to replicate.

Natural, sustainable resource
Latex gloves are green products, derived from a natural and sustainable resource, and are environmentally friendly. (You can learn more online by visiting www.smg-gloves.com or www.latexglove.info). The use of low-protein, powder-free gloves has been demonstrated by many independent hospital studies to vastly reduce the incidence of latex sensitization and allergic reactions in workplaces.

More importantly, latex allergic individuals donning non-latex gloves can now work alongside their coworkers wearing the improved low-protein gloves without any heightened allergy concern.

However, for latex-allergic individuals, it is still important they use appropriate non-latex gloves, such as quality nitrile and polysoprene gloves, that provide them with effective barrier protection.

Extensive array of brand, prices
Selecting the right gloves should be an educated consideration to enhance safety of both patients and users. For decades, gloves made in Malaysia have been synonymous with quality and excellence, and they are widely available in an extensive array of brands, features and prices.

They can be sourced either factory direct (www.mrepc.com/trade and click ‘medical devices’) or from established dental product distributors in the United States.

(Source: Malaysian Rubber Export Promotion Council)
Work with confidence

Malaysia:
Your #1 Source For Quality Medical Gloves
Protection and Performance You Can Trust

Malaysia is the largest source for U.S. imports of natural and synthetic rubber gloves as reported in tariff and trade data by the U.S. Department of Commerce and the U.S. International Trade Commission.

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www.smg-online.biz
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SharperPractice specializes in distributing innovative products from around the globe that are Best in Class. For more than 20 years, the company has been in the business of providing the most advanced intraoral camera solutions in the industry — as well as innovations that increase efficiency for the dental office. Some dentists who have visited the SharperPractice booth in a dental meeting exhibit hall refer to it as the “Bat Cave” because they are amazed at the quality and innovation in the products presented.

The company’s flagship product, the DocPort i.o. intraoral camera features a fog-free, focus-free design for ease of use and crystal clear imaging. Image acquisition is hassle-free via the easy-touch capture button located on the camera wand, or with optional USB footswitch. Direct connection to USB ports using a standard, inexpensive USB cable eliminates potentially costly cable repairs, and the camera is supplied with a remote automatic on/off handpiece holder. Designed to integrate directly with any dental software platform in both PC and Macintosh environments, DocPort i.o. is an easy choice for quality dental imaging.

New from Carl Zeiss — and others

As many as 75 percent of adult patients experience some degree of anxiety when visiting the dentist. Tackling patient anxiety is not always a simple solution for a dental practice. One of the most effective and natural ways of putting them at ease is through distraction, which can take the mind’s attention away from the sights and sounds of the dental office to a more calm and peaceful place.

Thanks to the Cinemizer OLED, your patients can experience high-quality 2-D or 3-D videos during almost any procedure in a comfortable, convenient and immersive environment. According to the company, this will help them relax and forget where they are, decreasing anxiety and stress and improving their overall experience in your office.

SockIt! is the first and only wound dressing specifically designed for oral use. It’s as simple as performing the procedure as you normally would, then applying SockIt! chairside and sending the remainder home with the patient. You can use it after any procedure, and it does not replace anything else in your office. Stop by the SharperPractice booth to sign up for a free product evaluation.

FlashMax P3, the most powerful curing light in the world, according to the company, has a wide-spectrum output of more than 5,800 mw/cm2 and cures 3mm layers of most materials in only...
Oral cancer screening device upgrades system

**OralID device now includes SmartFilterID, two-year warranty and free lifetime training support**

Forward Science, manufacturer of the OralID oral cancer screening device, is now including a SmartFilterID™ in each OralID™ Kit purchased. “We believe photo documentation is critical to the overall oral health screening process. Each office that purchases an OralID unit should have the ability to easily document suspect lesions and other abnormalities,” said Forward Science CEO Robert Whitman.

SmartFilterID is the first camera filter that enables a clinician to acquire clinical images with a smart device, including any iPhone or Android device. According to the company, Forward Science designed SmartFilterID based on simplicity and ease of use to simplify the current photo documentation process with fluorescence technology.

“Forward Science’s SmartFilterID is the perfect solution for the evolving technologies that we use in our daily life. It makes it incredibly easy to document serious findings at a click of a button,” said user Amanda Canto, DDS.

Forward Science has also made changes to the warranty of the OralID Kit. Many medical devices in a similar price range typically provide a one-year warranty. Forward Science stands behind its design and product, extending the warranty to two years. Forward Science president and Chief Technology Officer Dr. Brian Pikkula said, “Each device is assembled and tested by hand right here at our headquarters in Stafford, Texas. All are made to last.”

This latest upgrade also reflects Forward Science’s commitment to education. With each purchase of an OralID, a free live one hour personal Team Training session is included. The Team Training covers OralID use, oral cancer facts, recent trends, how to speak to patients, proper oral health protocol, billing and much more. As more patients are being screened for oral cancer, offices are continually looking for support. Forward Science is taking initiatives to support all customers in their efforts to stop the rise of oral cancer and is offering free lifetime support.

Forward Science is quickly becoming a respected resource for many clinicians who are looking for help and guidance in the battle against oral cancer. Visit www.OralID.com to see the “Lives Saved Ticker,” which confirms the impact Forward Science is making in the dental field. Send your “lives-saved” to info@oralid.com to help increase the count.

(Source: Forward Science)

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With the Cinemizer OLED virtual reality video glasses from Carl Zeiss, patients can experience high-quality 2-D or 3-D videos during almost any procedure in a comfortable, fully immersive environment.

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**SHARPERPRACTICE, page A22**

two seconds. Manufactured in Denmark, the FlashMax P3 features a unique ergonomic design with simple identical bilateral controls in a cordless form factor. Replaceable smart-charge battery technology allows the light to charge throughout the day on its 360-degree base and activates 200 cures on a single charge. Nearly three times the power of plasma arc lights at a fraction of the cost.

The EverClear mirror is a must have for every dental office, according to the company. This is the mirror you never have to wipe. Gone are the days of constantly wiping handpiece spray and debris from a dental mirror. Gone are worries about the assistant’s air spray keeping the mirror clean. No longer will dentists twist their backs and necks to get a direct view of the tooth, when a spray-covered mirror stops serving its purpose.

Only the best in class products and services become SharperPractice offerings, according to the company.

For more information, you can visit www.sharperpractice.com and, at the Chicago Midwinter Meeting, stop by its booth, No. 4621.

(Source: SharperPractice)
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The DocPort i.o. intraoral camera features a focus-free design for ease of use and crystal clear imaging. Image acquisition is hassle-free via the easy-touch capture button located on the camera wand, or with optional USB footswitch. Direct computer connection using a standard inexpensive USB cable eliminates costly cable repairs and the camera is supplied with a remote automatic on/off handpiece holder. Easy integration with any dental software platform in both PC and Macintosh environments makes DocPort i.o., the natural choice for quality dental imaging.

James Rosenwald, DDS, FAGD
“I recently bought two DocPort cameras (to replace my older units) and found them so easy to use and so valuable to my practice that I have purchased three more units. I highly recommend this camera.”

Gerald Ross DDS—Tottenham, ON
“I’ve had cameras costing more than double, but my staff prefers the DocPort over any other because the pictures show incredible detail and it’s so easy to use. We’ve tried a lot of them, but this camera is amazing.”

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ADHA backs oral health program that serves primary care providers

The American Dental Hygienists’ Association’s board of trustees has announced its formal endorsement of the Smiles for Life Oral Health Curriculum. Smiles for Life provides the oral health care for those who need it most. “We are educators, managers, practitioners who care for our community,” said Dr. Denise Bowers, president of ADHA, at the organization’s annual session.

In the third year of its Pros in the Profession awards program, Crest + Oral-B is recognizing four outstanding registered dental hygienists who demonstrate excellent patient care, a passion for the profession and a dedication to learning. These hygienists play an integral role in their patients’ oral health, earning their recognition and gratitude from their patients and colleagues alike.

The award acknowledges the pivotal role these hygienists play in their patients’ lives—and their unwavering personal commitment to promoting oral health in their communities. The award recognizes the contributions of RDHs who participate in community and professional learning opportunities available within the profession, and a dedication to lifelong learning.

Three standout hygienists already honored

Michelle Vacha, RDH

Michelle Vacha, RDH, BS, received her degrees from Northern Arizona University and has been practicing in Colorado Springs, Colo., for the past 24 years. “I am so honored to be receiving this award,” said Vacha about being named a winner for the second time. “I am hoping the attention from it will bring awareness to the public and other hygienists who care for older adults. Through my work, I help seniors deal with specific health factors they face due to lack of dental support. We want to ensure that all of the good work that has been done to maintain oral health throughout life is also preserved once insurance is no longer available through retirement or fixed income.”

Heather Steich, RDH

Heather Steich, RDH, BS, received her degree from Indiana University South Bend for her BSDH, and is currently at the University of Bridgeport Fones School of Dental Hygiene for her MSDH. She has been practicing in Merrillville, Ind., for the past two years. “My favorite aspect of dental hygiene is the limitless opportunities available within the profession,” said Steich about being an RDH. “We are educators, managers, practitioners and much more. Hygienists are able to adapt to any given situation and apply their knowledge and skill sets far beyond the dental chair.”

About Pros in the Profession

Crest + Oral-B is rewarding four RDH winners with an enhanced prize of • An all-expense paid trip to visit the Procter & Gamble German Innovation Center at Kronberg, Germany • A $1,000 monetary prize • A recognition plaque • Recognition in dental periodicals and announcements on Crest + Oral-B for Dental Professionals Facebook page and www.dentalcare.com.

Each year Crest + Oral-B looks for new ways to enhance the program, and for the first time this year, hygienists could nominate themselves for the honor. Nominations could also be submitted by dentists, fellow hygienists, dental assistants, professional colleagues and colegiate colleagues conveying why their nominee is a Pro in the Profession. Additionally, Crest + Oral-B has been at dental conventions throughout the year where applications could be submitted, though nominations were primarily collected via the Crest + Oral-B for Dental Professionals Facebook page.

To have been considered for the program, nominees must have met the following criteria:

• RDHs with two years or more of clinical/professional experience after graduation from dental hygiene school
• RDHs who participate in community service
• RDHs with examples of work that goes above and beyond the call of duty

To learn more about Pros in the Profession, visit prosintheprofession.com or facebook.com/professionalcrestoralb. For information about Crest + Oral-B products and resources, visit the updated www.dentalcare.com website.

(Source: ADHA)
Mydent launches new website and products

Mydent International’s new website enables health care professionals to identify their dealer for fulfilling DEFEND product orders. You can access the site at www.defend.com/order.

The site’s orders are processed within two business hours. For a limited time, you can receive a $50 eGift card to www.defend.com/order. For DEFEND orders of $150 or more.

DEFEND has a variety of new products. Krazy Cone Face Masks feature four characters designed for pediatric patients. Choices are a dog, cat, rabbit or pig. They are latex free and have 99 percent bacterial filtration and particulate efficiency.

Four-ply patient towels are three-ply tissue and one-ply poly, according to the company, a unique bonding technique eliminates separation of the layers. Reinforced edges increase durability. DEFEND PLUS Prophy Angles are contra designed to reduce hand fatigue and micro traumas. They are disposable, latex-free, smooth running and vibration-free. Access to back molars is easy, and a flared cup design reduces splatter. Omnicare Antibacterial Foam Soap features Bag-on-Valve Instant Foam Technology™ for times when hand hygiene is paramount. Omnicare Hand Sanitizer Spray is for disinfecting hands when soap and water aren’t readily available. It kills 99.999 percent of bacteria and contains conditioners and nourishing ingredients to not dehydrate skin, even with frequent use. There also is an Omnicare Automatic Dispenser, with touch-free mechanism standard.


**INDUSTRY NEWS**


Tell us what you think!

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To learn more, visit dentalcare.com, call 1.800.543.2577, or contact your Crest + Oral-B representative.

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F360™
Undeniably Simple.

The innovative Komet® F360 system is revolutionizing modern endodontics with a simple two-file approach to root-canal preparation. F360 pre-sterilized, single-patient files feature a unique Double-S™ design to ensure outstanding cutting efficiency and debris removal.

The thin-core, highly flexible files perfectly adapt to root-canal morphology and operate in rotary mode to full working length. F360: Bringing renowned Komet innovation and expertise to everyday endodontics. Simply exceptional.

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