Solving one of dentistry’s challenges: fear of injections

Of all the procedures performed on a routine basis, the one procedure that is universally perceived by patients as the most fear- and anxiety-provoking is the dental injection. In spite of the significant advances made during the past 100 years, our profession has yet to conquer one of the greatest challenges of dentistry— or has it?

Milestone Scientific after spending decades responsibly and methodically studying this problem, now believes that with the introduction of its new product, the Wand/STA System instrument, it has finally conquered this age-old problem. The Wand/STA System instrument represents the world’s first and only technology that uses the patented Dynamic Pressure Sensing (DPS) technology that accurately and safely performs a pressure-regulated intra-lingual dental injection.

The new Wand/STA System can also perform all traditional dental injection techniques, i.e., inferior alveolar block, supra-periosteal infiltration, etc. All techniques are performed more efficiently, more effectively and virtually painless.

Milestone’s new technology incorporates visual and audible real-time feedback, giving clinicians and tactile control. The experience for both patient and dentist is one that is significantly less stressful.

Milestone Scientific created and defined a new category of dental instruments called C-CLAD (Computer-controlled Local Anesthetic Delivery) systems. These are the only dental injection instruments that have the published scientific data that substantiate the claim of eliminating or reducing pain perception when performing a dental injection.

This technology has undergone the rigors of clinical testing that has been unprecedented in level of control and information when performing a dental injection.

The Wand/STA replaces the antiquated heavy metal dental syringe with an ultra-lightweight disposable handpiece weighing less than 10 grams for superior ergonomics and tactile control. The experience for both patient and dentist is one that is significantly less stressful.

The introduction of the Wand/STA System instrument represents a material improvement over previous versions of this technology.

Numerous innovative new features are available in the Wand/STA System. They include automatic purging of anesthetic solution that primes the handpiece prior to use, automatic plunger retraction after completion of use, a multi-cartridge feature allowing multi-cartridge injections and reduction of anesthetic waste.

Milestone Scientific has developed a novel training feature in the Wand/STA System instrument, providing clinicians with spoken instructional guidance on the use of the instrument, thereby substantially reducing the initial learning curve.

The Wand/STA System instrument is today’s most advanced C-CLAD technology and represents the next generation of computer-controlled drug delivery instruments for dentistry.

References
The ‘Denture Comfort’ procedure

We’re all well aware of the difficulties that traditional dentures present to both you and your patients. There are more than 39 million Americans suffering every day with difficulties related to eating, speaking and painful sore spots.

Today, with a great focus on the relationship between dentistry and systemic health, we must take into consideration that edentulism has a direct impact on patients’ overall health with problems ranging from psychological to nutritional and digestive concerns.

According to Dr. Karl Misch, students and dentists alike that compete both loss is associated with illness; 17 percent of edentulous people take medicine for gastrointestinal disorders.

In a transformative document called the McGill Consensus, which was published in 2002, it was determined that all mandibular dentures should be retained with a minimum of two implants. This would greatly prevent any further bone resorption and provide for a more stable, more retentive denture. The ADEA endorsed this form of treatment in 2002, it was determined that all mandibular dentures should be retained with a minimum of two implants. This would greatly prevent any further bone resorption and provide for a more stable, more retentive denture. The ADEA endorsed this form of treatment in 2004.

So it begs the question: why have so few dentists followed these recommendations? The answer is simple: the population we hoped to serve more often than not did not have the time, bone or money to afford conventional two-stage dental implants.

There are just a few of the staggering statistics:
- 88 percent of people in the United States who could benefit from implants never receive treatment due to lack of time, bone or money
- Of the U.S. population who are aged 65 and older and have lost all of their natural teeth, 55.9 percent has an annual income of less than $15,000; 25.3 percent has an annual income between $15,000 and $24,999.
- Only 22 percent of older persons are covered by private dental insurance.

It is often of surgery, time constraints, inadequate bone and cost are often cited as the reasons people don’t choose to have implants to support their dentures. It is a reliable and affordable way for Americans wearing lower dentures to get the comfort and confidence they need to live satisfying lives — all without costly or debilitating surgery.

Thanks to the Atlas® Denture Comfort procedure, millions of people who are suffering with the pain, embarrassment and disabilities that come from dentures that don’t fit properly can receive state-of-the-art Atlas narrow-body implants at a fraction of the cost for traditional implants.

The Denture Comfort procedure was developed by Dentatus USA in conjunction with world-renowned researchers at New York Univer-
sity College of Dentistry (NYUCD) Department of Implant Dentistry to be a simple and affordable alternative to traditional, larger implant-supported dentures.

The Atlas implant system advances the art of dentistry by eliminating old technology associated with housings and O-rings. This improvement makes it far easier both for dentists to use the system and more comfortable for patients by reducing the number of visits. Insertion/removal of the denture of the easier and offers the patient a new advantage of being able to sleep with his or her dentures.

Tuf-Link silicone is the magical component in the system; it is the interface between the patient’s ridge and denture. There is no need for adhesives with this protocol, which are known to cause bacteria and result in halitosis. The Tuf-Link silicone is so durable that patient’s do not need to have it replaced until their scheduled annual visits. These features distinguish Atlas from other products on the market, which, while sharing the slim diameter, rely on technology originally developed more than 30 years ago.

Dentatus’ goal is to make available to the American people and abroad, dentistry that is affordable, accessible and life improving for the rather significant segment of people who are underserved in this area. The company continues to seek out clinical research by leaders in the profession and focuses on product improvements and real-life patient needs as they become known.

Dentatus leads the way with more university based published data and clinical research than any narrow diameter implant currently available in the U.S. Narrow-body implants have come a long way since they were first introduced as transitional implants in 1993.

In 2004, Atlas received FDA approval for long-term use or any length of time as determined by the healthcare provider. They are manufactured and package certified to ISO 9001/ISO 13485, CE Marked and Health Canada Approved.

In 2005, Dr. Rohrer performed histological studies showing that these implants integrate just as conventional diameter, machined-surfaced implants. In 2007, a five-year study performed at NYU reported a 94 percent survival rate and 100 percent patient satisfaction.

Isn’t it time you looked into this treatment option to restore quality of life for your denture patients? Dentatus makes it easy for you to get started with their half-day hands-on workshops.

All the materials for your first case are included in the registration fee, and the course will pay for itself once you perform your first case. For more information check out www.dentatus.com, call (800) 525-5156 or visit Dentatus at CDA booth No. 584.

The EMS promise: painless ultrasonic therapy

Switzerland’s Electro Medical Systems (EMS) wants to demonstrate how treatment with an ultrasonic scaler can be enhanced even more with the brand new Piezon® Master 700. EMS points to the special features distinguish Atlas from other products on the market, which, while sharing the slim diameter, rely on technology originally developed more than 30 years ago.

All the materials for your first case are included in the registration fee, and the course will pay for itself once you perform your first case. For more information check out www.dentatus.com, call (800) 525-5156 or visit Dentatus at CDA booth No. 584.

The seamless housing of the original Piezon handpieces and the EMS Swiss instruments made of biocompatible surgical steel to ensure ergonomic and hygienic design, which describes itself as the leading maker of dental hygiene systems, which integrate just as conventional diameter, machined-surfaced implants. In 2007, a five-year study performed at NYU reported a 94 percent survival rate and 100 percent patient satisfaction.

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The company says that the i.Piezont module assures that instrument movements are perfectly aligned with the tooth surface, and vibrates 32,000 times per second to make it extremely effective.

The intelligent feedback control minimizes damage to the tooth surface. The result is a uniquely smooth tooth surface and maximum soft-tissue protection. As EMS explains, this is the formula for incomparable precision and therapy that is practically painless thanks to optimum instrument movements.

The balanced Piezon handpieces show how substantially improved illumination of the oral cavity can be achieved with the six LEDs arranged around the tip of the handpiece.

In the words of the manufacturer, which describes itself as the leading maker of dental hygiene systems, this advance enables dentists to handle ultrasonic instruments with even greater precision.

This means even greater precision for periodontal and root canal treatments, calculus removal, cavity preparation and other conservative treatments.

The seamless housing of the Piezon Master 700 has an esthetic, ergonomic and hygienic design, which promises a high degree of operator comfort.

The touch panel can be rapidly and precisely operated by simply touching the self-explanatory operating elements or tapping on the desired action. This enables the system to meet all the requirements in respect to ease of use, and especially hygiene.

The two replacement bottles with a capacity of 550 ml or 500 ml for holding various antiseptic solutions are resistant to UV radiation and can be replaced easily and quickly thanks to their snap shut caps.
XTend ceramic kits and turbines for high-speed handpieces

With the XTend™ ceramic line of turbines and kits, ProScore offers dentists the best quality do-it-yourself products for high-speed handpieces in the market. Not only are XTend ceramic products backed with the best warranties in the business—one year for turbines and six months for rebuild kits—XTend products outperform steel bearings, last longer and produce less noise and vibration.

The Ceramic Bearing Technology incorporated in XTend ceramic products provides many handpiece performance benefits:

- Reduced wear: ceramic balls are twice as hard as steel balls.
- Increased durability: ceramic balls are 40 percent lighter than steel balls, which reduces the internal forces and loads caused by high-speed rotation.
- Longer life: ceramic bearings perform better than steel under marginal lubrication.
- Quieter and smoother operation: noise and vibration are reduced as a result of lower loads.

ProScore’s other EZ Solutions offer dentists various do-it-yourself repair and maintenance options.

EZ Press III™ and EZ Rebuild™ Kits
The EZ Press III Repair System is the answer to the high costs and downtime associated with sending high-speed handpieces out to be repaired. Allowing the dentist to easily change those parts that have worn out, the EZ Press III utilizes simple procedures, requires no guesswork and ensures precise placement of the bearings on the spindle.

EZ Install™ Turbines
For an instant repair, dentists can replace cartridges chairside with EZ Install Turbines, which are manufactured with the highest quality parts and quality assurance procedures in the market, including dynamic balancing. The result is a high-performance, long-lasting turbine that outlasts others in the market.

Smart Cleaner
Smart Cleaner is a one-of-a-kind maintenance tool that not only helps prevent residue buildup in handpieces and coupler waterlines, but also clears away obstructions if they occur. Simply connect the handpiece or coupler to the Smart Cleaner and activate the hand pump to clear obstructions and debris.

EZ Care™ Cleaner and Lubricant
EZ Care Cleaner was formulated to flush debris and remove buildup from the handpiece’s internal rotating parts, improving long-term handpiece performance and sterilization efficacy.

EZ Care Lubricant ensures that handpieces and accessories will achieve maximum performance.

ProScore has been dedicated to do-it-yourself handpiece repair and maintenance since entering the dental market more than 15 years ago as Score International.

Now ProScore is part of Henry Schein’s “Family of PROs,” which includes ProRepair and ProService, to offer you the best fit for your repair needs.

For more information, visit ProScore at CDA booth No. 2450, call (800) 726-7365 or visit www.scoredental.com.

BEAUTIFIL Flow Plus
Shofu presents BEAUTIFIL Flow Plus, an all-in-one flowable base, liner and final restorative. Approved for all indications (Class I-V) based on physical properties that rival the leading hybrid composites, this injectable hybrid restorative achieves superior adaptation that offers distinct benefits compared to traditional hybrid packing techniques.

Featuring Shofu’s GOMER “surface pre-reacted glass” (S-PRG) filler material, BEAUTIFIL Flow Plus also exhibits durable esthetics and sustained fluoride release and recharges that provide lasting benefits.

All-in-one base, liner and restorative
BEAUTIFIL Flow Plus was specifically designed to stand up to the rigors of the occlusal surface and marginal ridge. High filler content and unique chemical properties ensure that clinicians have all of the material strength found in leading hybrids. In fact, compressive strength, flexural strength, toothbrush wear and other crucial mechanical properties of BEAUTIFIL Flow Plus were either clinically equivalent or superior to leading hybrids on the market.

Stay-put handling and superior adaptation
Traditional methods of filling and packing hybrids are time consuming and technique sensitive. BEAUTIFIL Flow Plus easily flows into the prep, self-levels and creates a tight marginal seal quickly and reliably. Unlike other flowables, BEAUTIFIL Flow Plus stays put and won’t spill out of the prep. This allows stacking all the way up to the occlusal surface. Two distinct viscosities are available: “F00” zero flow for controlled stacking and “F05” low flow, which handles more like a traditional base or liner but has the same physical properties as F00.

Clinically proven benefits
Shofu’s proprietary GOMER tech-
The device gently holds the patient’s mouth open, keeps the tongue out of the working field, illuminates the oral cavity and guards the patient’s airway—all while continuously evacuating saliva and excess moisture.

Additionally, the company announced that Isodry, a non-illuminated dental isolation system, was named by www.drbicuspid.com as “Best New Instrument” in its 2011 Dental Excellence Awards. Isodry was introduced in February 2010 and was also named by Dentistry Today magazine as one of its “Reader’s Choice Top 50 Technology Products” for 2010.

Isolite and Isodry dental isolation systems use the patented Isolite Isoflex mouthpiece. The super soft mouthpiece used with the device makes for a more comfortable experience for the patient, and allows dental professionals to work more efficiently with greater control over the oral environment.

Mouthpieces are available in six sizes.

Isolite Systems’ dental isolation technology continues to receive praise from its users and recognition from the dental industry for its dental isolation technology.

The Isolite™ dental isolation system was named one of the “50 Greatest Game Changers in Dentistry” by Dentaltown magazine. Recognition of the product’s contribution to the advancement of dentistry is a major milestone for the device.

Isolite’s inclusion in the list placed it among some of the dental profession’s biggest advancements, including fluoride, local anesthesia, dental handpieces and digital radiography.

Isolite is a dental isolation system that combines the functions of light, suction and retraction into a single device that solves many of the frustrations that dental professionals deal with on a daily basis.
distinct sizes that are designed to fit patients varying in size, from small children to large adults.

“Proper dental isolation is one of the most underrated factors affecting the longevity of dental work,” said Thomas Hirsch, DDS, co-creator of Isolite. “Compared to other dental isolation methods, such as the rubber dam or manual suction and retraction, Isolite is faster and easier for dental professionals and easier on the dental patient.”

For more information about Isolite Systems and its products, including a video tour and clinical videos, please visit www.isolitesystems.com or call (800) 560-6066. See a live demonstration during the California Dental Association Fall meeting at booth No. 234.

Schick’s CDR Elite digital radiography system combines truly outstanding image quality, an easy-to-use design and a robust, hard-wearing construction to provide an intraoral radiography experience that is truly “elite.”

CDR Elite was developed with guidance from a panel of leading dental radiologists and validated by an extensive range of dental practitioners from all fields.

It is quick, providing instant X-rays.

It reduces radiation; provides high-quality images for enhanced diagnosis; enhances patient communication and increases case acceptance; is easy to use for both the clinician and staff; eliminates the repetitive costs of film, chemicals and disposal of those chemicals; and eliminates time wasted while waiting for film to be developed.

CDR Elite images provide bold bone trabeculation, crisp lamina dura and a clear, clean DEJ to meet the diagnostic needs of every clinician.

Schick’s CDR Elite system is designed to focus on ease of use, diagnostic image quality and durability.

Simple and easier sensor placement, even for vertical bitewings, comes from an optimally located sensor-cable interface and a new color scheme that provides high visibility in the oral cavity.

Embracing the success of Schick’s unique removable cable technology (introduced with the CDR Plus-Wire), CDR Elite incorporates this technology on all three sensor sizes, ensuring that every clinician and every dental practice can enjoy the simplicity and convenience of a one-step cable-replacement process.

CDR Elite integrates fully with Schick’s intuitive and easy-to-use CDR DICOM imaging software, as well as Eaglesoft and Patterson Imaging, which all feature multiple tools for enhanced diagnostic capabilities and patient communication.

The dentist can add other Schick products such as iPan, CDR PanX and USBCam2 for a complete digital solution.

Join Us AND SAVE CHILDREN IN NEED

Get involved today and make a difference in the life of a child forever.

Prevent disease in a young child.

Adopt the care of a child through participation in the America’s Toothfairy Dental Home Program™ and your practice will ensure that an at-risk child can look forward to a lifetime of good oral health.

Restore a smile and change a life.

Prepare a teen for a happy, successful future by restoring their confidence along with their smile, when you volunteer for the Tomorrow’s SMILES™ program. Your generosity will carry on as the teen serves as a mentor, teaching good oral health habits to younger children.

www.AmericasToothfairy.org

Corporate underwriting of operational and program expenses ensures that 100% of contributions go to life-changing programs for children in need.

Schick digital radiography: the elite solution

(PHOTO/Provided by Schick)
Introducing ProMax 3D Mid
2-D and 3-D fusion in one unit

The new PLANMECA ProMax® 3D Mid is a CBVT unit including 5-D imaging, panoramic, extra-oral bite-wing and cephalometric all in one machine that can accommodate all of your clinical needs.

The PLANMECA ProMax® 3D Mid:
• provides an extended selection of 3-D volume sizes combined with traditional 2-D panoramic and cephalometric imaging;
• and has the unique ability to meet all of your diagnostic needs, including implantology, endodontics, periodontics, orthodontics, as well as dental and maxillofacial surgery and TMJ analysis.

The volume sizes range from ø3.4 x 6.0 cm to ø16 x 16 cm. This wide selection of volume sizes allows for optimizing the imaging area according to specific diagnostic task — always complying with the best practices of dentistry including the ALARA (as low as reasonably achievable) principle to minimize radiation.

Versatility
• Adjustable KV and MA.
• Pediatric Mode automatically reduces volume according to child’s anatomy.
• Works natively in MAC OS environment.

• Provides volume sizes for every clinical application.
• Cephalometric upgrade available.

Ease of use
• Simple, effortless patient positioning.
• The intuitive graphical user interface offers preprogrammed target sites and exposure values for different image types and targets.
• Fully integratable with third-party software.
• Comes with a complete software system for diagnosis.

SmartPan, unique panoramic imaging
• A unique SmartPan imaging system also uses the same 5-D sensor for panoramic imaging, eliminating the need to change sensors.
• The SmartPan system automatically calculates nine different panoramic curves in a 1 mm shift.
• The user can browse between the panoramic images and select the most suitable for diagnosis after the exposure.

For an in-office consultation or more information call (650) 529-2500 or visit www.planmecausa.com.

Products to fit your entire practice

Keystone Industries is proud to announce the addition of the Gelato line of oral health care products and the Prehma line of disposable and surgical products to its overall supply source for the dental laboratory industry and, in recent years, has made strategic acquisitions that have expanded the product offerings into the dental operatory arena.

Here are a few of Keystone’s products, all of which are made in the United States.

Gelato APF Fluoride Gel
This is an economical and 60-second acidulated phosphate fluoride gel that contains 1.25 percent fluoride ion. The smooth and creamy thixotropic formula will not run, preventing patient gagging. It is available in cherry, mint, orange vanilla, piña colada, bubble gum, strawberry, grape, cotton candy, mango smoothie and marshmallow. The formula is gluten-free.

Gelato Home Care Rinse & Gel
This 0.63 percent stannous fluoride perio rinse 10 oz (284 g) bottle with pump comes in two natural flavors: mint and raspberry. It is antimicrobial and alcohol-free and relieves tooth sensitivity, reduces gingival inflammation, helps inhibit plaque build-up, prevents demineralization and promotes remineralization. The formula is gluten-free.

Gelato Foam
Fluoride
The 1.23 percent acidulated phosphate fluoride formula provides comfort and consistent and efficacious coverage. The foam remains in the fluoride tray under bite pressure to eliminate patient gagging. It is available in these flavors: cherry, bubble gum, grape, mint, strawberry and cotton candy.

High-volume evacuator (HVE) tips
The HVE tips are available in nine colors. (Photo/Provided by Planmeca)

Gelato Topical Anesthetic Gel
This gel has no bitter aftertaste and is fast-acting with no systemic absorption. It is available in seven flavors: cherry, piña colada, bubble gum, mint, mango, strawberry and raspberry.

It contains 20 percent benzocaine for effective temporary pain relief during procedures such as local anesthetic injections, periodontal curettage, impression taking, scaling, intra-oral radiographs, root planning and prophylaxis.
CareCredit®, the nation’s leading patient payment program, continued its support as founding donor of the American Dental Association Foundation Give Kids A Smile® Fund with its fifth consecutive $100,000 donation.

The donation was made at the Give Kids A Smile National Advisory Board meeting, Feb. 23, in Chicago.

The funding will help the American Dental Association Foundation continue to make grants that support the Give Kids A Smile Program.

The American Dental Association’s Give Kids A Smile program has several objectives:

• to raise awareness of the high level of oral disease suffered by children primarily from low income families;

• funds put toward goal of ‘cavity-free kids by 2020’
• to demonstrate dentistry’s commitment to addressing access to care;
• to enable volunteer dental teams across the country to provide free dental care, screening, and education to children in need; and
• to urge policymakers to increase funding for children’s oral health.

In 2010, with the help of CareCredit’s contribution, the ADA Foundation awarded grants to the Hispanic Dental Association (HDA), the National Dental Association (NDA) and Oral Health America.

The HDA is using its grant to fund local dental-student-led oral health programs in Los Angeles, San Antonio and Boston, to expand their mobile dental van program and participation in local health clinics.

The NDA is enhancing the Deamonte Driver Dental Project, a memorial to a young boy who died from an infection in his brain that was caused by untreated dental decay, to reach more elementary schools and expand mobile dental van services.

Oral Health America’s grant funds have been distributed to Smiles Across America sites in California, Minnesota and Nevada, which has enabled thousands of children to receive education, preventive care and restorative services.

“Dental disease among children is a serious issue in the United States. When a child has disease and pain, it makes it difficult for him or her to eat, sleep and learn. CareCredit became the founding donor of the American Dental Association Foundation Give Kids A Smile Fund to help increase children’s access to treatment throughout the year.”

“Each year we are so impressed with how the grant recipients use the funds to reach out in their community,” stated Cindy Hearn, board member and senior vice president of marketing at CareCredit.

“The ADA Foundation and its Give Kids A Smile Fund greatly appreciate CareCredit’s continuing support. CareCredit’s generosity will play a key role in helping Give Kids A Smile achieve its goal of cavity-free kids by 2020,” stated Dr. David A. Whiston, president of the ADA Foundation.

Today, CareCredit is offered in more than 86,000 enrolled dental practices. CareCredit is exclusively selected for their members by most state and national dental associations, and is also recommended by leading practice management consultants.

For more information on CareCredit, call (800) 500-5046 or visit www.carecredit.com/dental.

Information on Give Kids A Smile can be found at www.givekidsasmile.ada.org.

Nikon D7000 clinical camera package

The Nikon D7000 fits into the Nikon lineup between the D90 and the D300s in regard to price and size, but beats both of them when it comes to features. The D7000 takes the resolution up to 16.2 megapixels (compared to the 12.3 mp resolution of the other two cameras) and adds full 1080p HD video capture (the D90 and D300s have 720p HD video).

Nikon has also introduced User Modes (U1 and U2) on the D7000. This has been a popular feature on the Canon 40D, 50D and 60D. For clinical use, one can use the User Modes to pre-program the camera and simplify switching between portrait and closeup views.

The User Modes are also nice in case someone changes settings on the camera. To get back to the proper settings, you simply turn the dial to another mode and then back to the User Mode and then all of the pre-programmed settings are restored.

The D7000 has two SD memory card slots, and you can program the camera to use the slots in Backup Mode (each image is written to both cards), Overflow Mode (when the first card is full, the camera switches to the second card) or RAW Slot 1-JPG Slot 2 Mode (RAW files are written to the first card and JPGs to the second card).

The camera system features Nikon’s 85mm macro lens and a Metz wireless macro flash.

For more information, please visit www.photomed.net or call PhotoMed at (800) 998-7765.