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Winter 2009

Introducing the EndoActivator System

Evidence-based endodontics has shown that cavitation and acoustic streaming significantly improve canal system disinfection. Following years of investigation on how to improve existing methods, three renowned endodontists have **developed a system to facilitate 3-D cleaning, which along with well-shaped canals and ideal root canal filling systems, increase predictable success.** Drs. Clifford Ruddle, Robert Sharp and Pierre Machtou have together designed an affordable system to more effectively utilize hydrodynamics in the pulp chamber and enhance disinfection. The **EndoActivator System** excels in:

- Debridement and disruption of the smear layer and biofilm
- Placement of calcium hydroxide and MTA around root curvatures
- Removal of residual obturation materials during retreatment procedures

Numerous studies have shown that this system produces significantly cleaner canals, **provides superior removal of dentine debris compared to irrigant only, and enhances biofilm disruption.** (For more information about these studies, visit www.endoruddle.com)

The EndoActivator System is composed of a cordless battery-operated handpiece used in conjunction with 22mm length color-coded polymer tips available in three sizes. The system available from Dentsply-Tulsa and lists for \$425 (includes handpiece and 25 tips in each size. Visit <https://store.tulsadental.com/catalog/> for more information or contact Sheridan Supple (South Louisiana's rep) at (504) 908-2143 for special incentives.

LDA ANNUAL SESSION AND NEW ORLEANS CONFERENCE

Mark your calendars on **Thursday, April 2nd - Saturday April 4th** for the combined LDA Annual Session and the New Orleans Dental Conference. This year's meeting is powerfully packed with great speakers and educational opportunities for the whole team. The line up features such notables as Dr. John West, Dr. Mike Schuster, and Dr. Stanley Malamed just to name a few. Even Chefs John Folse and Paul Prudhomme are on the schedule!

In addition to the lectures, numerous hands-on courses will be offered. Visit <http://www.nodc.org/site.php> for more details.

NORTHLAKE DENTAL ASSOCIATION 2009

Congratulations to Dr. Randy Mayer, newly installed President of Northlake Dental Association. Serving as Secretary is "Yours Truly", and already some exciting developments are in the works. On Thursday, March 19th Dr. Kavas Thunthy will be the featured speaker at the General Membership meeting being hosted at the Tchefuncta Country Club in Covington. He will be discussing "3-D Cone Beam Technology and its Application in Dentistry". The Summer Session will be held in Destin from June 4th - 6th and features hands-on courses sponsored by Biolase.

The **NDA website is up and running**, and contains all the current information about what's happening in NDA, bylaws, member directory, etc. Check it out at www.NDASSN.org and consider joining as a member or an associate member to take advantage of the great schedule of educational offerings this year.

UPDATED PHARMACY LIST

Included with this newsletter is an **updated Northshore Pharmacy List**. There have been some changes and additions, so you'll likely want to replace prior versions of the list. If you would like extra copies call us at (985) 626-0111 or email us at endocenter@gmail.com.

ANKYLOS- THE NEXT GENERATION IMPLANT SYSTEM

In October 2004 Dentsply-Tulsa introduced the **ANKYLOS dental implant system** to the United States market. Clinical studies began 20 years ago, and or more than 10 years, this system has been available in Europe. The clinical track record backed by radiographic evidence and SEM studies makes ANKYLOS a strong contender for the **best implant system available**.

Developed by Professor Dr. G.H. Nentwig and Dr. W. Moser in 1985, ANKYLOS implants have been in clinical use since 1987. Made from pure titanium, the design provides a revolutionary connection to prevent bone loss. In fact, **studies have shown cases of actual bone growth over the platform of the implant, preserving bone and tissue volume**.

ANKYLOS implants have **no microgap** because the connection between the abutment and the implant is transferred to the interior of the implant - **free from micromovements and extremely mechanically stable**. This means that the implant-abutment junction is completely bacteria-free.

By retaining the integrity of the hard and soft tissues around an implant long-lasting function can be achieved, without compromising long-lasting aesthetics in the process. Please visit Dentsply-Tulsa's website (<http://www.tulsadental.com/>) for much more information about the ANKYLOS Implant System and to learn why this is the solution that implant dentistry has been waiting for! *Stay tuned for upcoming CE opportunities!*

NEED CPR CERTIFICATION OR RENEWALS? HAVE MANIKINS- WILL TRAVEL!

Every two years your team has the pleasure of renewing their CPR status. Sometimes finding an instructor to help with this necessary process seems like it can give *you* heart failure! We're hoping to make this process much easier for you and your team. **If it's time for Basic Life Support for Healthcare Providers renewal, please feel free to call us.** We will send our emissary of the pulmonary right to your door!

CARE CREDIT CHANGES YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT

Care Credit continues its efforts to be a viable financial resource for practices and patients, even during these economically uncertain times, but **they have made some changes**. If you are a Care Credit provider, be aware that as of February 1st, their interest rate for extended payment plans **has increased from 11.9% to 13.9%**. Also, the minimum amount required for financing for 60 months or longer is now \$2500.

The application process remains very streamlined, and patients have the choice to apply online, by phone or in your office. Approvals guidelines are somewhat more restricted, and less credit may be given. **In fact, be aware that existing credit limits may be reduced, so it's a good idea to verify available credit rather than rely on prior limit amounts.**

While this information may seem a discouraging reflection on the global economy, it is encouraging to see that Care Credit offers creative solutions to helping your patients receive the care they need. It's well worth a visit to their website, www.carecredit.com, to explore the tools they offer both for new case acceptance and collection challenges within your existing accounts receivable. Sure, the economy is nothing to smile about, but Care Credit is still a great resource to keep those smiles intact for better times ahead.

Thank you for your continued support. Our practice is built upon the foundation of your referrals and we are thankful to be part of the solutions that you offer to your patients. It is our pleasure to be a member of this exceptional dental community.

Best Wishes,

Catherine A. Helbert, DDS