

THE DENTAL ADVISOR™

Improving Patient Care Through Research & Education



Endodontic Therapy

Endodontic therapy has been a successful part of dentistry since the beginning of the 20th century. In a large scale Delta Dental Study of over 1.6 million patients, 97% of patients had retained their teeth for eight plus years following root canal therapy. As endodontic techniques and materials have improved over the last twenty years, more dentists are routinely performing successful endodontic therapy as part of their day-to-day procedures. Even with this success and growing popularity, endodontic therapy can still be challenging.

This issue of THE DENTAL ADVISOR discusses the materials and techniques used throughout the root canal process. Traditional techniques will be compared to more modern techniques, and some thoughts of what we expect to see in the future will be shared.

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www.dentaladvisor.com

RATINGS:

Excellent + + + + +

Very Good + + + +

Good + + +

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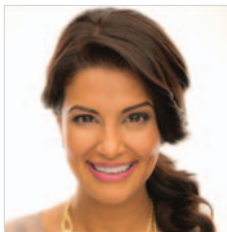
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From the Desk of Dr. Bunek, Editor-in-Chief



My assistant recently referred a friend of hers to our practice. It had been over a decade since she had seen a dentist, and she was experiencing pain, apprehension, and a bit of guilt over her situation. We were able to complete root canal therapy on two first molars for her in two visits. During one of her visits, she commented on how impressed she was by the obvious intricacy of the procedure and at the same time, the ease, efficiency, and painlessness of her appointment. Moments like these are opportunities to reflect on the impact our procedures really have on our patients. We were able to look at our system of endodontic treatment from the patient's perspective and

see how the products we use benefit the individual. Our ability to treat our patient in our office offered her a sense of ease and comfort in a situation that started out less than ideally. Advancements in the area of endodontics have given the general dentist the freedom to treat their patients effectively and efficiently in their own practices.

In this issue, our guest author, Dr. William Stevenson, will take you through the process of root canal therapy from prevention and diagnosis to obturation, and supply you with some examples of the many endo products available to assist you throughout this process. I hope you will use this issue as a similar opportunity and focus on what these products can do for the patients in your practice. As always, I welcome your comments and suggestions; you can reach me at drbunek@dentaladvisor.com. Thanks for your continued support and reading!

Traditional *vs.* Modern Techniques

Technique:

Diagnosis

PROBLEM: Patients often present with complaints of pain or tenderness around teeth. Sometimes a very clear symptom points us to a straightforward diagnosis. Other times a patient's symptoms may be difficult to reproduce and/or interpret.

Traditional Methods:

Film X-ray was the standard for dental offices for over 100 years. These radiographs still provide a good visual foundation for diagnosis and is used all over the world. Other tools that can be used in conjunction with an x-ray are products such as **Hygenic Endo-Ice** (Coltene Whaledent), which can provide information about the vitality of the pulp.

Modern Methods:

New digital radiographs allow for an image with better diagnostic clarity. Some systems such as **Dexis** (Dexis LLC) integrate seamlessly with certain practice management systems and allow for the modification of the image to aid in diagnosis. Electric pulp testers, such as the **Vitality Scanner 2006** (Sybron Endo) give additional feedback regarding the vitality of the nerve tissue. Additionally, a growing number of practitioners are utilizing Cone Beam CT 3D imaging to help in the visualization of canals. These CBCT scans are especially useful when retreating a root canal as they can show possible untreated canals or abnormalities in root form that are not visible in a two-dimensional radiograph.

Film X-ray was the standard for dental offices for over 100 years.

Technique: 2 Prevention

PROBLEM: The prevalence of deep carious lesions continues to be the major factor contributing to the need for endodontic therapy. Although caries rates have declined with the fluoridation of water, and composite restorations have allowed for more conservative preparations, the iatrogenic effects of operative dentistry can still lead to stresses in the pulpal tissue.

Traditional Methods:

For a number of years cavity varnishes and/or bases and liners were the main methods for promoting healing in the presence of deep restorations. Traditional liquid and powder pastes, such as calcium hydroxide (*Dycal*, *DENTSPLY Caulk*) have been used to help insulate and protect the nerve of the tooth and still are used today.

Modern Methods:

A new generation of liners with better handling properties have replaced traditional liquid/powder mixes. Resin-modified glass ionomer materials, such as *GC Fuji II LC* (GC America), provide many of the same benefits of traditional liners, but are easier to place, and have greater compressive strength. Additionally, new pulp therapy materials, such as *TheraCal LC* (Bisco Dental Products), are light-cured and are indicated for both direct and indirect pulp capping, as well as for a base and liner.

GC Fuji II LC

GC America, Inc.
(800) 323-063,
(708) 597-0900
www.gcamerica.com



Product Description: Clinically proven *GC Fuji II LC*, Resin Modified Glass Ionomer Restorative, is the ideal solution for Class III & Class V restorations, cervical erosion /abfractions and root surface restorations, offering dual curing, immediate finishing and outstanding aesthetics. Additionally, it can be used as a base or liner in a sandwich technique.

Technique: 3 Access of Canals

PROBLEM: One of the most difficult components of endodontic therapy is localization and access of the canal space. Conservative access aims for an opening that is large enough for straight-line access while removing minimal tooth structure.

Traditional Methods:

Historically, clinicians had to rely mainly on tactile sensation when locating canals and access was gained through the use of round burs and traditional hand files.

Modern Methods:

Today manufacturers are developing specialized burs to help uncover canals and assist in straight-line access (*Munce Discovery Burs*, CMJ Engineering; *EndoGuide Molar Kit*, SS White Burs, Inc.). Accessing very small canals can also be accomplished with the use of ultrasonic tips.

Technique: 4 Determination of Working Length

PROBLEM: One of the critical aspects of successful endodontic therapy is disinfection to the terminal aspect of every canal.

Traditional Methods:

Radiographs with hand files placed in canals have been the traditional method of verification of the apex.

Modern Methods:

Apex locators (*Root Z-X*, J. Morita) offer a more accurate measurement for working length. By measuring the resistance to electrical current, these units quickly determine the length of the root canal.

Effective Debridement and Conservative Shaping of Roots

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PROBLEM: Proper shaping, cleaning, and disinfection of the root structure is the main purpose of endodontic therapy. This step in endodontic therapy is generally the most time consuming and demands careful instrumentation in order to prevent ledging, perforations, or broken files.

Traditional Methods:

Stainless steel hand files have traditionally been used to clean and shape canals. These files are flexible and can be curved or shaped to better-fit canal, and are more resistant to fracture.

Modern Methods:

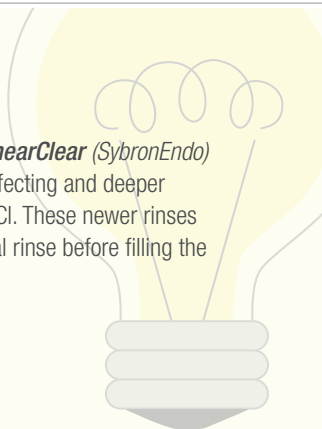
One of the biggest advances in endodontics in the last 20 years has been the development of NiTi rotary files. These files are able to negotiate around curves and into spaces that stainless steel file are unable to; however, one of the downsides of these files is they can separate in the root canal. Systems such as the **Protaper** (DENTSPLY Tulsa); **EndoSequence** (Brasseler); and **Quantec LX or SC** (SybronEndo) all utilize NiTi technology.

In recent years, several new systems have come to market that use a reciprocating file movement in an attempt to help lower the fracture rate of these instruments. Systems such as the **Wave One** (DENTSPLY Tulsa), **Endo-Express with Safe Siders** (Essential Dental Systems), and **TF Adaptive** (Axis/SybronEndo), all use some version of a reciprocating file and hope to limit the fracture rate of files.

Product	Rotary	Reciprocating	Combination
Mechanism	360 degree clockwise rotation of file	Some combination of clockwise and counter clockwise resulting in a 360 degree motion	Both mechanisms are available
Some Available Systems	GT Series X (DENTSPLY Tulsa) Protaper (DENTSPLY Tulsa) Endosequence (Brasseler USA) Quantec LX or SC (SybronEndo)	Wave One (DENTSPLY Tulsa) EndoExpress with Safesiders (Essential Dental Systems)	TF Adaptive (Axis/SybronEndo)
Advantages	+ Ability to use the Crown Down technique	+ Reduced risk of file separation + Less files + Less drastic learning curve + Lower cost (less files used)	+ Ability to switch between rotary and reciprocating motion. + Multiple doctors can use multiple methods
Disadvantages	- File separation	- Cost of switching (time and money) - Accepting different ideology	- Cost of switching (time and money) - Accepting different ideology

Clinical Tips

- Visualization:** Enhancing vision has become an increasingly standard practice. Dental loupes like **HiRes 3 Loupes** (Orascoptic) or **ErgoVision Loupes** (SurgiTel), often used in conjunction with additional lighting devices including **Feather Light LED** (Ultra Light Optics) and **Zeon Endeavor** (Orascoptic) can greatly improve accuracy and efficiency. Over the past two decades, it has become more and more common for microscopes with greater magnification than loops to be used.
- Irrigation:** Newer irrigating rinses, such as **SmearClear** (SybronEndo) and chlorhexidine, have also added more disinfecting and deeper cleaning characteristics than solely using NaOCl. These newer rinses are become a more standard practice as a final rinse before filling the root canal system.



Strong and Hermetic Seal of Canals

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PROBLEM: After proper shaping and disinfection of the root canal system, a strong and hermetic seal of the canal system is necessary to prevent bacteria from reinfecting the completed root canal. The obturation material needs to be biocompatible to bone and tissue, prevent reaction from the adjacent hard tissues around a tooth, be retrievable in case of retreatment, and have good handling characteristics to allow accurate and complete filling of the canal system.

Traditional Methods:

One of the first obturation materials were silver points used with zinc phosphate. Since then gutta percha with a non-eugenol **Tubli-seal experss** (SybronEndo) or eugenol based sealer **AH Plus** (DENTSPLY Maillefer) has been the most common used obturation material. Placement techniques of gutta percha with sealer have ranged from lateral condensation to vertical condensation as the two most traditional methods of placing the material.

Modern Methods:

Gutta percha continues to be the most common material used for obturation but there has been newer equipment designed to help get a denser and more three dimensional fill. Certain equipment, such as the **Elements Unit** (Sybron Endo), allows heated tips to be placed near the apex of a tooth to help warm and shape the gutta percha to better fit a canal and then allow the clinician to back fill the root canal with a warm gutta percha. Other heated gutta percha tips, such as **Thermafil** (DENTSPLY Tulsa), allow one warm cone to be placed and formed to the shape of the prepared canal. Some newer materials have been developed that resemble the handling properties of gutta percha, but allow the obturation material to be bonded into the canal. These materials, such as **Realseal** (SybronEndo), claim to help prevent bacteria from travelling down canals as easily as gutta percha. These new systems tend to utilize other irrigating rinses, such as **SmearClear** (SybronEndo), to help prepare the root structure for the bonded obturation material.

Future of Endodontics:

There is a continued growing interest in vital pulp therapy with MTA materials. Current items such as **MTA Reporative Cement** (Angelus) are already indicated for formation of a dentin bridge for pulp capping. Down the road we may have materials to help the pulp repair or even regenerate after trauma and possibly treat the infected pulpal tissue without having to remove it.

As imaging techniques increase we may be able to add contrast dyes to imaging in order to help us diagnose infection and inflammation.

Microscopes have provided the most improvement in visualization compared to all previous modalities and will continue to do so as more general dentists incorporate them into their practices. In the future Cone Beam CT 3D technology will continue to gain popularity and aid in the negotiation of canals and acquisition of a working length.

As the metallurgical properties of files continue to change and the motion that is used continues to be refined, the evolution will continue to move towards files that cut effectively, can be form changing to follow the shapes of curving canals, and still have the strength to maintain a lower fracture rate. These refinements will probably be minor, yet continuous, as companies try to create a better and easier to use products.

We may see significant changes in sealer design, filling materials, and or placement technique to help create a more effective seal and possibly provide antimicrobial qualities, while at the same time being very biocompatible to the adjacent tissue.

MTA-Angelus Reporative Cement
 + + + + ½
 Angelus
 1-855-FindMTA
 (1-855-346 3682)
www.angelusdental.com



Product Description: **MTA-Angelus Reporative Cement** is an endodontic reparative cement, containing mineral trioxide aggregate (MTA). Calcium ions are released that promote the formation of a dentin bridge when used for pulp capping and promote biological healing and the formation of root cement in cases of root perforations. **MTA-Angelus Reporative Cement** is designed to be used under moist conditions, as it absorbs water and forms a gel, and then solidifies. **MTA-Angelus Reporative Cement** was evaluated by 26 consultants in 201 uses. This reparative cement received a 91% clinical rating.

Hand Essentials™ Skin Repair Cream

Hu-Friedy
(800) 483-7433 | www.hu-friedy.com

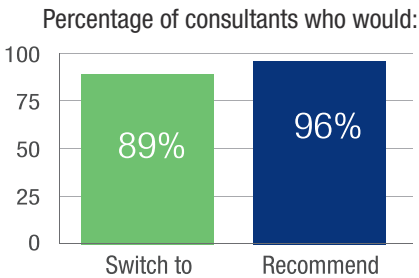
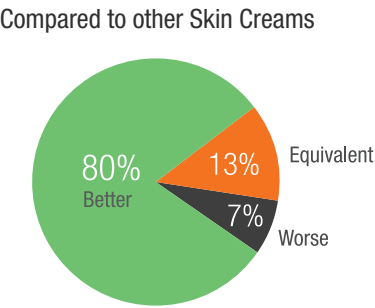
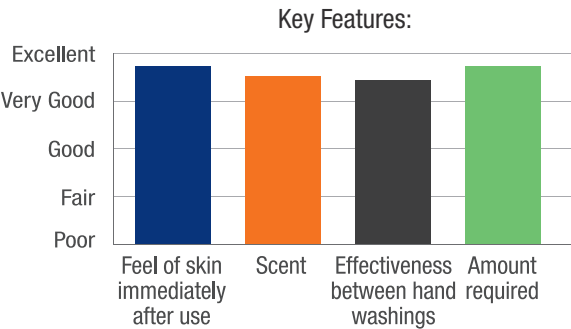
Description

Hand Essentials Skin Repair Cream is a moisturizing hand cream containing *Olivamine*®, a patented blend of antioxidants, vitamins, amino acids and MSM (methylsulfonylmethane). It is water-based and formulated to protect and repair chapped or cracked skin while allowing the skin to breathe. **Hand Essentials Skin Repair Cream** is compatible with alcohol hand sanitizers and products containing both CHG (chlorhexidine gluconate) and latex. Only a small amount of cream is required and should be massaged completely into skin until absorbed. **Hand Essentials Skin Repair Cream** is available in 4 mL packets, 2 oz and 4 oz tubes and 32 oz pump bottles. **Hand Essentials Skin Repair Cream** was evaluated by 44 consultants in over 2100 uses. This skin cream earned a 96% clinical rating.

Suggested Retail Cost	
32 OZ (IMS-1500)	\$50.00
4 OZ (IMS-1501)	\$12.08
2 OZ (IMS-1502)	\$8.23
144, 4ML PKTS (IMS-1508)	\$118.75

Product Features

Ninety-eight percent of consultants felt that **Hand Essentials Skin Repair Cream** improved the feel of their hands. Skin feels smooth with decreased dryness and cracking. Existing cracks and small cuts healed more quickly according to consultants. The natural light citrus scent was pleasant to most users and did not linger. When a small amount is used, the cream absorbs quickly and does not leave a greasy feeling on



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Consultants' Comments

- "Absorbs into the skin quickly."
- "No greasy feeling."
- "Lasts between hand washings."
- "A small amount goes a long way."
- "Hands feel soft immediately."
- "I have sensitive skin, and this improved the feel and appearance of my hands."
- "Make an unscented version."

the skin. **Hand Essentials Skin Repair Cream** works well in the office environment by not impeding the donning of gloves. Overall improvement in the softness of the skin was reported. ■

FoamEZ Splash Hood Liner

Richmond Dental
(800) 277-0377 | www.richmonddental.net

Description

FoamEZ Splash Hood Liner covers the internal surface of the splash hood of a dental lathe to help catch debris and facilitate easy clean up. The foam liners also provide a soft cushion to protect restorations from cracks or chips should they slip during polishing. **FoamEZ Splash Hood Liners** are available in two-count packages. **FoamEZ Splash Hood Liner** was evaluated by 19 consultants in 249 uses. This liner received an 86% clinical rating.

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Blossom® brand Avocado Green Nitrile Examination Gloves

Mexpo International Inc.

+1(510) 489-6800, +1(510) 489-3111 | www.blossom-disposables.com

Description

Blossom® brand Avocado Green Nitrile Examination Gloves (also branded as **Frutti Treasure Avocado Nitrile Examination Gloves**) are powder-free nitrile gloves with a beaded cuff. **Blossom® Avocado Green Nitrile Examination Gloves** have textured fingertips for enhanced grip. They are formulated to offer excellent strength and elasticity while providing a comfortable, natural fit. They are packaged in 100-count per box, 10 boxes per carton and available in sizes S, M, L and XL.

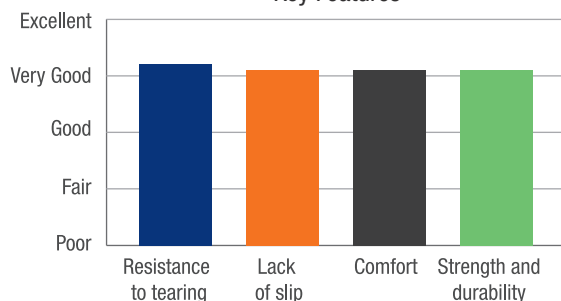
Blossom® Avocado Green Nitrile Examination Gloves were evaluated by 51 consultants in over 2700 uses. These nitrile gloves received an 88% clinical rating.

Suggested Retail Cost \$7.99 /box

Product Features

Blossom® Avocado Green Nitrile Examination Gloves have a soft feel and a pleasing color. Resistance to tearing received numerous positive comments, and the gloves felt strong. The textured fingertips minimized slipping of instruments while maintaining a good tactile sense. The glove sizing ran small, and many consultants found they had to wear a size larger than usual. These gloves did not have a great amount of stretch and felt tight across the palms. Unlike many nitrile gloves, the cuffs of **Blossom® Avocado Green Nitrile Examination Gloves**

Key Features



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Consultants' Comments

"I like the light green color."

"They do not tear while donning."

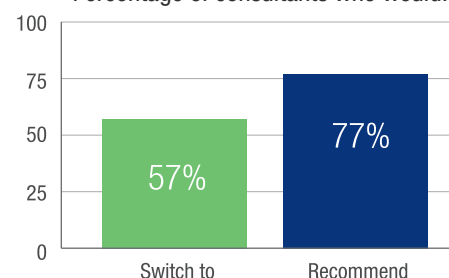
"Non-slip grip. I was able to handle implant components securely."

"Lightweight, yet strong."

"Tight across the palm."

extend well above the wrist for added coverage. Fifty-three percent of consultants rated **Blossom® Avocado Green Nitrile Examination Gloves** better than other nitrile gloves they were using and 22% rated them to be equivalent. ■

Percentage of consultants who would:



FoamEZ Splash Hood Liner (cont.)

Product Features

FoamEZ Splash Hood Liner offers protection to items being polished on a lathe if they unexpectedly catch on the wheel and are flung against the back of the splash hood. It also kept grit confined inside the hood and made cleanup easier. The majority of consultants were not using any sort of splash hood liner; a few were using household products such as a paper towel or aluminum foil. The fit and contour of the liner was not form-fitted to consultants' splash hoods, and the liner sometimes had to be trimmed to fit. Sixty-three percent of consultants rated **FoamEZ Splash Hood Liner** better than their current splash hood liner and 5% rated it equivalent. Forty-seven percent of consultants would switch to **FoamEZ Splash Hood Liner** and 53% would recommend it to a colleague. ■

Consultants' Comments

"Without a doubt it has protected my prosthetics from breaking - the soft liner saved me a lab repair."

"FoamEZ allows for easy cleaning of the lathe hood and the soft material is a safety cushion."

"Did not fit my hood with the built-in light."

Suggested Retail Cost \$23.99 /2 pack

Flexitime Fast & Scan

Heraeus
(800) 431-1785 | www.heraeusdentalusa.com

Description

Flexitime Fast & Scan is a line of fast-setting VPS impression materials that can be scanned without powder or additional surface treatment. It is indicated for all standard impression techniques. **Flexitime Fast & Scan** working time is up to 1 ½ minutes and final setting time is 2 minutes. The **Flexitime Fast & Scan** line includes: **Flexitime Easy Putty** (available in 300 ml jars), **Dynamix Putty** and **Dynamix Heavy** tray materials (available in 380ml) 5:1 cartridges for dynamic mixing machines) and **Flexitime Medium Flow** and **Light Flow** wash materials (available in 50 mL, 1:1 automix cartridges with 12 mixing tips). **Flexitime Fast & Scan** was evaluated by 28 consultants in 313 uses. This scannable impression material received an 86% clinical rating.

Suggested Retail Cost	
Flexitime Fast & Scan Medium/Light Flow (2x50ml)	\$52.88
Flexitime Fast & Scan Dynamix Heavy Tray/Putty (2x380ml)	\$403.65
Flexitime Fast & Scan Easy Putty (Single x 600mL)	\$151.99

Equipment Features

Flexitime Fast & Scan provides very good detail for crown and bridge impressions. The pastel colors are harder to read than deeper colors, but they enhanced imaging with some impression scanners. Some dental offices scan impressions for CAD/CAM restoration fabrication, and many dental laboratories also scan impressions for digital design of restorations. Dentists and laboratory technicians were able to scan **Flexitime Fast & Scan** without the use of powder. The putty is soft

BluPrint Premium

Benco Dental
(800) 462-3626 | www.benco.com

Description

BluPrint Premium impression materials are addition-curing, elastomeric, vinyl polysiloxane (VPS) materials indicated for all standard impression techniques. The **BluPrint Premium** line, which is mint flavored, includes tray and wash materials available in four viscosities (putty, heavy, monophasic and light) in 5:1 cartridges for dynamic mixing machines, 1:1 automix cartridges for use with dispensing guns, and traditional putty jars. **BluPrint Premium** impression materials are considered fast-set. Working/setting times are 1:15/2:45. Each box contains two 50 mL cartridges of material with mixing tips. **BluPrint Premium** heavy and light fast-set material was evaluated by 29 consultants in 418 uses. This impression material received a 91% clinical rating.

Suggested Retail Cost	\$36.82/2-count 50 ml kit w/mixing tips
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Product Features

BluPrint Premium produces very good impressions. The light body material is quite flowable, and it merges seamlessly with the heavy tray material. The fast setting time is ideal for impressions of one or two preparations. Patients responded positively to the mint taste and the quick setting time. Reading margins in the dark purple/blue color combination requires bright lighting. Many consultants commented positively about the good detail and color contrast. Overall, impressions were found to be

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Consultants' Comments

"Putty lends rigidity to a dual-arch tray."

"Great detail quality."

"No need to powder impression for scanning."

"Texture is chalky rather than glossy."

"Light colors are hard to read; I would prefer the material with a higher color contrast."

"I would prefer a heavy tray material in an automix cartridge rather than a hand-mixed putty."

Lab Consultant Comment

"Impression scanned easily and accurately."

and easy to mix by hand to a homogeneous color. Its heavy consistency pushes the light-body material into the sulcus. The fast setting time is ideal for cases involving one to three units. Twenty-one percent of consultants rated **Flexitime Fast & Scan** better than other impression materials they were using and 32% rated it to be equivalent. Thirty-six percent would switch to **Flexitime Fast & Scan** and 61% would recommend it to a colleague.

Clinical Tips

- After loading the putty into the tray, place an indentation in the approximate area of the preparation to avoid displacing all of wash material.
- Place light/medium-body material on teeth adjacent to the preparation. This will aid in capturing the cervical anatomy of these areas where the putty alone would not adapt beyond the height of contour.
- Use ½ scoop of **Easy Putty** for a quadrant impression. ■

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Key Features

Feature	Rating
Viscosity	Excellent
Working/Setting time	Very Good
Detail quality of impression	Good

Consultants' Comments

"A high quality impression material."

"The color contrast between the heavy body and the light body was very good."

"Quick set time and accurate impressions."

"A lighter color would be easier to read."

"Make the labeling more distinctive between the heavy and light viscosities."

very accurate, resulting in good-fitting restorations. Fourteen percent of consultants rated **BluPrint Premium** better than other impression materials they were using and 38% rated it equivalent. Forty-one percent would switch to **BluPrint Premium** and 69% would recommend it to a colleague. ■

Dynamix speed

Heraeus Kulzer

(800) 431-1785 | www.heraeusdentalusa.com

Description

Dynamix speed is an automatic impression mixing unit with three speed options. It is designed to facilitate the mixing and extrusion of polyether, VPS and alginate substitute impression materials with a mixture ratio of 5:1 in bulk cartridges. **Dynamix speed** is an improvement of the original **Dynamix** machine with three different delivery speeds - two for loading trays and one for loading syringes. The high-speed option delivers material twice as fast as the original machine. Cartridges are marked with a symbol designating the proper speed setting, based on viscosity of the material. The **Dynamix speed** unit comes with a two-year warranty, with the option to extend the warranty for an additional two years. **Dynamix speed** was evaluated by 12 consultants in 56 uses. This impression mixer received a 96% clinical rating.

Products that will fit into the Dynamix speed machine:

Take1 (Kerr), Affinis (Coltene), Aquasil Ultra (Dentsply Caulk), Algin-X Ultra (Dentsply Caulk), Impregum Penta (3M ESPE), Position Penta (3M ESPE), Imprint 3 Penta (3M ESPE) and Honigum MixStar (DMG America). For evaluation purposes, the company provided Flexitime Fast&Scan Dynamix Trial Kits.

Suggested Retail Cost

\$2,326.53 unit

Equipment Features

Dynamix speed is an excellent unit for mixing and dispensing impression material. The fast speed makes it stand out among mixers, loading trays in a short amount of time. Compared to hand mixing (putty) or extrusion from an automix cartridge that can cause hand fatigue, dental assistants noted that using **Dynamix speed** was effortless. The unit works with all brands of dynamic mixing impression materials (see box). The machine has a compact size and neat appearance, and the functions are clearly marked. A fill level indicator allows visual estimation of amount of material remaining in the cartridge.

Clinical Tip

- Only **Dynamix** cartridges labeled with a “star” symbol can be delivered at the high-speed option. ■

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Consultants' Comments

“Loading an impression tray is usually hard on my hand from squeezing the handle of an automix gun. This mixing system is literally as easy as the push of a button.”

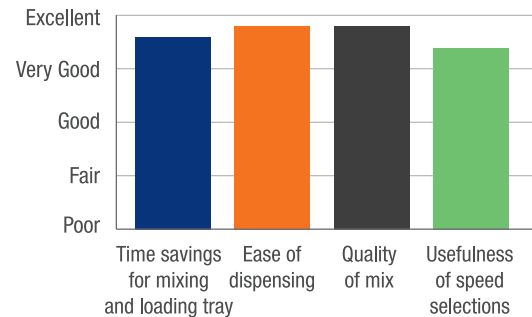
“Cartridges are easy to change.”

“Short mixing tips minimize waste.”

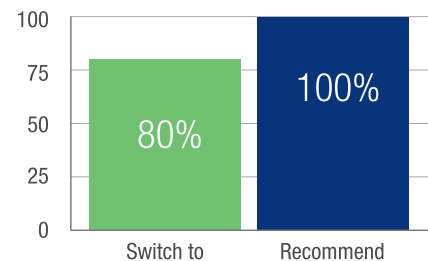
“Fast mixing and excellent results.”

“I would like to have a foot pedal so I have both hands free.”

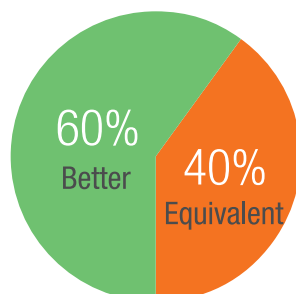
Key Features



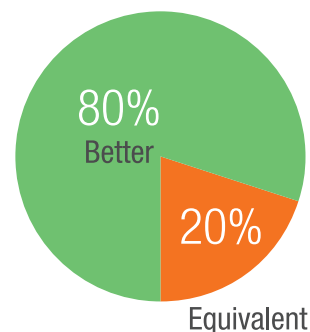
Percentage of consultants who would:



Compared to other impression mixing units



Compared to hand mixing and hand dispensing



SteriPocket

Richmond Dental
(800) 277-0377 | www.richmonddental.net

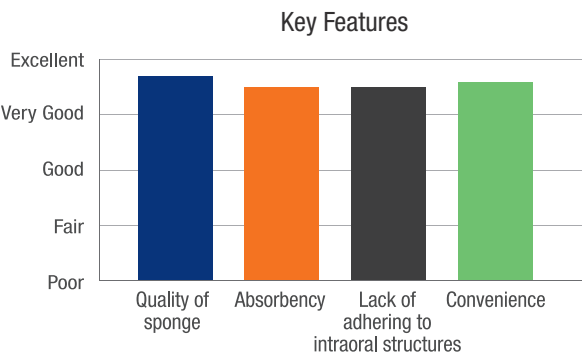
Description

SteriPocket® is 2 8-ply, pre-packaged, pre-sterilized, rayon/polyester nonwoven sponges. **SteriPocket** sponges are intended to be utilized and dispensed following an extraction or surgical procedure. The packaging is paper with a clear wrapper backing; patient instructions are printed on the paper side. The box contains 4 trays convenient for dispensing out of the operator. There are 200 **SteriPocket**® in a box of 2x2 and 100 **SteriPocket**® in a box of 4x4. **SteriPocket**® rayon/poly 2x2 nonwoven sponge was evaluated by 29 consultants in over 1200 uses. This nonwoven sponge received a 96% clinical rating.

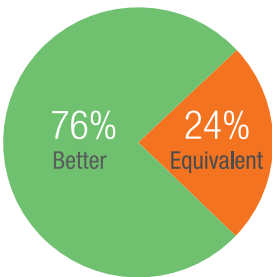
Suggested Retail Cost
200 2x2/\$32.00, 100 4x4/\$30.00

Product Features

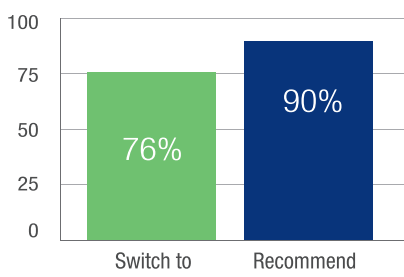
The individual packaging of **SteriPocket** provides a convenient and professional packet for dispensing to patients after surgical procedures. The non-woven gauze are highly absorbent and do not create lint. Each sponge is thick and effective in covering a surgical site without adhering to the wound. **SteriPocket** also saves time for dental assistants who would otherwise have to pack and sterilize gauze. Patient instructions printed on the package are a good reinforcement of the dentist's instructions. ■



SteriPocket compared to other gauze



Percentage of consultants who would:



+++++



Consultants' Comments
"I could rest assured that the gauze stayed sterile until the patient was ready to use it."
"Positive patient perception - package is clearly marked 'sterile'."
"Gauze squares are thick and soft."
"Package is easy to open."
"Packets should contain four gauze squares - two are not enough."

PinkBand®

FlyCast Technologies, Inc
(847) 260-8330 | www.PinkBand.org

Description

PinkBand® is a silicone-coated matrix band for use when placing composite restorations. The silicone coating provides an additional seal against moisture contamination within the confines of the band, and it also facilitates removal of the band. **PinkBand**® is a *Tofflemire*-style band and is available in Universal, Pado and Subgingival sizes. Bands are available in both Regular 0.0015" and Ultra Thin 0.001" thicknesses in packages of 25. **PinkBand**® was evaluated by 27 dental consultants who placed 479 composite restorations in patients. The silicone-coated matrix band received a 98% clinical rating.

Suggested Retail Cost
\$51/25 bands

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Remin Pro

VOCO

(888) 658-2584 | vocoamerica.com

Description

Remin Pro is a water-based cream containing hydroxyapatite (calcium and phosphate), fluoride (1450 ppm) and xylitol. It is indicated for use after whitening and prophylaxis for the treatment and prevention of hypersensitivity, demineralization and acid erosion. **Remin Pro** is formulated to provide added protection for teeth by neutralizing acid challenges from cariogenic bacteria in plaque. **Remin Pro** may be applied with a brush, with a finger or placed in a custom tray. It is available in strawberry, melon, and mint flavors in assorted and single-flavor packages. Each tube contains 40 g of paste. **Remin Pro** was evaluated by 24 consultants to treat sensitivity and demineralization. This desensitizing agent received a 96% clinical rating.

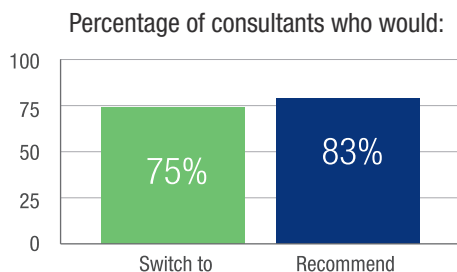
Suggested Retail Cost \$162.95/12 tubes, \$46.50/3 tubes assorted

Product Features

Remin Pro is effective at reducing root surface sensitivity in a short time. The cream is smooth and spreads easily and flavors are pleasant. The inclusion of fluoride makes it ideal for caries prevention in high-risk patients. Unlike some other remineralizing agents, **Remin Pro** does not contain milk proteins, alleviating concerns in individuals who are sensitive to those ingredients. The instructions included with the cream are more appropriate for the dentist than for a patient. Consultants would like the addition of concise patient instructions.

Clinical Tips

- Use a pea-sized amount and allow it to remain on the teeth for at least three minutes.



PinkBand® (cont.)

Product Features

The silicone coating of **PinkBand®** is effective in improved moisture control over standard sectional matrix bands. The silicone coating also prevented the composite from sticking to the band, making the removal smooth and easy. The Universal, Pado and Subgingival sizes fit well into matrix retainers. Consultants had individual preferences on the thickness of their bands for composite restorations. Some preferred the Ultra Thin bands, while others preferred the stiffness of the Regular silicone-coated bands. Some consultants noted that the thinner bands tore more easily during tightening, compared to the regular bands. 80% of dental consultants rated **PinkBand®** better than other matrix band systems they are currently using and 20% rated it equivalent. 100% of dental consultants would switch to **PinkBand®** and would recommend it.

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Consultants' Comments

"Place it in whitening trays for easy and mess-free delivery."

"Patients all reported a significant decrease in sensitivity."

"Good flavors."

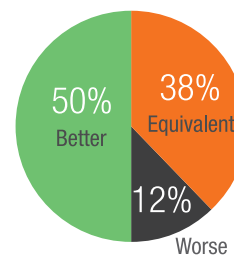
"Works great in a whitening-type tray."

"Add patient instructions to kit."

"Instructions should indicate recommended frequency of use."

- Excess cream should be spit out to avoid swallowing excessive fluoride.
- Avoid rinsing, eating or drinking for 30 minutes or more after use. ■

Remin Pro compared to other remineralizing agents



Consultants' Comments

"Improved moisture control."

"Does not stick to composite."

"Thin, flexible band that does not collapse during placement."

"Well-suited for large cavity preparations."

Clinical Tips

- Open interproximal contact to ease placement.
- Proper wedging is essential.
- To prevent tearing, do not over-tighten band.
- Burnish the band against the adjacent tooth with a rounded instrument.
- May need to hold the band against the adjacent tooth with an instrument to achieve proper contact. ■

Smile Guide Touch Pro

Digident, LLC

www.smileguidetouch.com

Description

Smile Guide Touch Pro is a tablet-based app designed to aid in cosmetic smile design. This interactive visual tool utilizes an animated smile guide program to help patients determine their choice of smile. The app is designed to enhance the clinician's ability to elicit a patient's desired outcome and reproduce that outcome during the restorative process. The app is available in two versions, the *Smile Guide Touch* and the **Smile Guide Touch Pro**. The *Smile Guide Touch* is the basic version that includes the *Touch Designer*, which gives the doctor and patient the tools necessary to select the details and the shape of a smile. The **Smile Guide Touch Pro** also includes *Smile Design Rx* for communication with the dental laboratory. *Smile Design Rx* includes the ability to customize screens with the practice name, create a *Smile Rx*, print, email, and save a smile design by patient name. **Smile Guide Touch Pro** was evaluated by 17 consultants in 314 uses. This smile design tool received a 91% clinical rating.

Suggested Retail Cost \$149.95/app

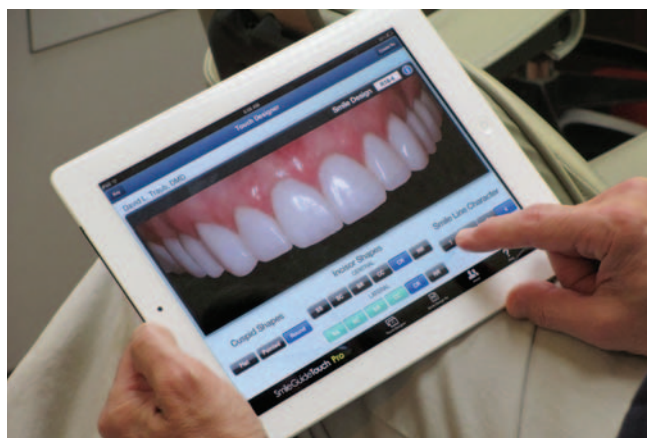
Product Features

Smile Guide Touch Pro allows easy visualization of incisal edge shapes and smile line contours and gives patients the ability to interact and share their preferences prior to treatment. For the dentist and lab technician it creates a blueprint for wax-ups, provisionals, and final restorations. *Smile Guide Rx* was easily printed, emailed, saved, and retrieved and became a useful tool for communication between some consultants and their labs. **Smile Guide Touch Pro** is portable and interactive with 240 unique smile variations. Ninety-four percent of consultants felt this program could be easily learned by anyone in the dental office. For the patient who is interested in being involved in the details of their case, **Smile Guide Touch Pro** can help to engage them in the process. Forty-seven percent of consultants reported that **Smile Guide Touch Pro** was better than other programs they had used and 29% reported it was equivalent. Seventy-one percent of consultants would switch to **Smile Guide Touch Pro** and 82% would recommend it.

Clinical Tips

- **Smile Guide Touch Pro** is currently only available for iPad. It does not run on the iPhone and will be available for Android devices in June.

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Consultants' Comments

- "The software is extremely easy to use."
- "Anytime we can engage the patient in the conversation about the design of their smile, it is a good thing. It helps them take ownership of the process and allows them to feel that their opinions about their new smile have been heard."
- "Patients are visual orientated and they love technology."
- "Great tool for lab communication on smile design."
- "Not all patients are interested in the details of tooth contour."
- "I may not be able to provide the exact smile that was shown on the screen."
- "Patients didn't say 'wow' because the image was not their teeth. I would like to be able to import patient photos and overlay the smile design."
- "Designs focused on the anterior teeth only - many cases require treating 8-10 teeth."

- No formal training is required. Full tutorials are available online.
- To communicate with the dental lab you can send a printed or emailed *Smile Design Rx*. For maximum effectiveness, the dental lab should own their own SGT.
- Save a PDF of the *Smile Design Rx* and print it or import it into the patient's electronic record. ■

SPECIAL THANKS TO:

Select Senior Clinical Consultants (Over 20 years):

J. Amara, CT · R. Fisher, OH · W. Gregory, MI · E. Katkow, MD · J. Lockwood, MI · J. Mayer, OH · W. Nagy, TX · G. Poy, MI · J. Shamraj, MI · R. Trushkowsky, NY · P. Yaman, MI

Senior Clinical Consultants (15-19 years):

S. Anderson, MI · R. Anthony, OH · K. Baker, TX · F. Berman, PA · L. Brimhall, MT · M. Briskin, NY · L. Brown, MI · R. Ciccone, MI · C. Colbert, MI · M. Conrad, PA · J. Dingman, WI · J. Doueck, NY · M. Dwoskin, MI · M. Eannaccone, NY · R. Engle, IL · K. Fairbanks, MI · K. Fischer, IN · G. Franco, NY · N. Garlisi, OH · K. Goodman, MI · S. Graber, IL · P. Grandsire, NY · B. Gursky, MI · E. Gutman, NY · K. Hamlett, TX · G. Hart, OH · R. Herwig, KS · J. Kaminski, MI · R. Kaprielian, NJ · M. Kastner, OH · C. Kehr, MI · M. LaMarche, WA · J. Leitner, MI · R. Lezell, MI · M. Livernois, NC · B. Manne, FL · N. Mansour, MI · N. Markarian, CA · J.W. Mikesell, IL · G. Mosso, PA · E. Mosso, PA · E. Odenweller, OH · J. Paris, TX · D. Parris, GA · D. Peterson, MD · T. Pieper, WY · D. Pitak, MI · V. Plaisted, NY · D. Qualliotine, NC · C. Reed, MI · P. Sandvick, WI · K. Schwartz, FL · J. Shea, MO · B. Shumaker, NJ · B. Sims, NY · H. Tetelman, OH · C. Trubschenck, CA · P. Tu, CA · S. Ura, NH · W. Walcott, MI · L. Wee, MI · D. Wojtowicz, MI · R. Wilkie, MI · M. Zahn, MI

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