

Successfully Integrating Lasers into Everyday Dentistry: Understanding & Addressing the Ergonomics, Workflow, and Safety Concerns

Scott D. Benjamin

Organization/Institute name, 64 Fake Street, City, Country

SUMMARY

One of the major obstacles of incorporating lasers into everyday patient care is having the laser and all the needed accessories easily available and properly positioned when needed. Many of the dental operatories and surgical suites were not designed with the intention of accommodating technologies such as the LightWalker and similar devices. Most of these obstacles can easily be overcome with the proper assessment of the existing clinical environment and planning of who, what, why, when and how the laser is going to be efficiently utilized.

This presentation will discuss possible solutions to these issues. The goal is to develop an understanding of the desired workflow, system requirements, ergonomics, placement of the equipment and its accessories, which should be addressed before a procedure is scheduled. Discussions will include considerations on how to easily accommodate deviations and additions to a proposed treatment, which may occur during a scheduled appointment, and how to easily implement the changes in the technologies that are required to meet these changes. Additionally, laser safety considerations and efficient infection controls procedures, including instrument reprocessing protocols and routine laser inspection and maintenance policies, will be presented.

At the conclusion of this presentation attendees should have:

- An understanding of how to assess and improve the clinical environment for laser utilization and overcome potential obstacles discovered.
- The ability to establish well-organized protocols for the consistent and routine use of laser technology in enhanced patient care.
- The ability to establish efficient laser safety and infection control procedures and perform and document the routine inspections of the laser system.

The New Straight-Tip Handpiece H14-NS

Kresimir Simunovic

Office for laser assisted Dentistry, Zürich, Switzerland

SUMMARY

After a short review of the available LightWalker handpieces and a comparison of the indications and needs of straight-shaped instruments in dentistry, a clinical translation follows, with examples of different applications of the new H14-NS (in pictures and videos), together with an explanation of the straight-tipped approach to working with oral hard and soft tissue and a presentation of the resulting clinical advantages and for the practitioner and patient.

The intent of this Laser and Health Academy publication is to facilitate an exchange of information on the views, research results, and clinical experiences within the medical laser community. The contents of this publication are the sole responsibility of the authors and may not in any circumstances be regarded as official product information by medical equipment manufacturers. When in doubt, please check with the manufacturers about whether a specific product or application has been approved or cleared to be marketed and sold in your country.