NeoMTA Plus: Bioactivity with all of the pros, none of the cons

By Karl Woodmansey, DDS, MA, Diplomate, American Board of Endodontics

When MTA (mineral trioxide aggregate) was first commercialized for use in 1998, it was big news: the first bioactive medicament for use in endodontic dentistry. Its bioactivity at the periapical tissues allowed cementum to grow directly over the MTA, thereby allowing regeneration of the body’s normal architecture. The periodontal ligament tissues could join to the cementum, and this healing process created a secondary seal for protection against bacterial leakage.

MTA products are now recognized to be tri/dicalcium silicate bioceramic powders. Unfortunately, most such products require endodontists to trade-off the advantages of bioactivity with several handling disadvantages in the operatory. But there’s good news: One MTA — Avalon Biomed’s NeoMTA Plus® — overcomes all of these disadvantages.

Handling and consistency
Conventional bioactive cements (MTAs) are mixed with water and form a coarse wet sand consistency that is difficult to pick up and place. In contrast, Avalon Biomed NeoMTA Plus is mixed with its gel to create a putty that can be easily formed into whatever shape is needed. NeoMTA Plus can be mixed to a variety of viscosities by varying the powder-to-gel ratio; it can be mixed thick for use as a putty in various vital pulp or endodontic procedures or thin for use as an endodontic sealer. Special placement devices are not necessary to deliver NeoMTA Plus.

Washout
Because of its loose consistency and long setting time, traditional MTA is susceptible to washout from exposure to blood, water or gravity. Temporizing with a cotton pellet is never necessary with washout-resistant NeoMTA Plus.

Setting time
Conventional MTA has an initial setting time of roughly two hours 45 minutes, contrasted with NeoMTA Plus’s setting time of 15 minutes.

Discoloration
Conventional MTA products have caused tooth discoloration both immediately and long-term. Discoloration typically occurs when bismuth oxide, the radiopacifier in many MTA products, is exposed to light or other medicaments. NeoMTA Plus is radiopaque without the bismuth oxide that causes discoloration. The tantalite radiopacifier used in NeoMTA Plus does not discolor.

Waste
Conventional MTAs use foil “sachet” packages that cannot be resealed for multiple doses. Open pouches expose the powder to moisture, which causes premature setting. NeoMTA Plus avoids waste with its re-sealable, desiccant-lined powder dispenser that continually protects the powder from moisture. A 0.1 gm scoop allows you to dispense only what you need.

Price
Miraculously, despite its numerous performance advantages, NeoMTA Plus’s price is about one-fifth (yes, one-fifth!) the price of conventional MTAs. In short, NeoMTA Plus delivers the benefits of the bioactivity provided by conventional MTAs, with none of the disadvantages.

Here in Denver
To learn more about Avalon Biomed NeoMTA Plus, stop by the booth, No. 1315.

About the author
The author of numerous publications exploring clinical applications of technology, Dr. Karl Woodmansey has a DDS degree from Baylor College of Dentistry and a certificate in endodontics from Texas A&M University Baylor College of Dentistry. After 17 years of clinical practice, he taught at Texas A&M University Baylor College of Dentistry Department of Endodontics and then served as the endodontic program director for St. Louis University. He is currently associate professor at Saint Louis University. Woodmansey has served as a member of the U.S. Air Force/Air National Guard Dental Corps for 20 years and is presently assigned to the 126th Aeromedical Group at Scott Air Force Base as a lieutenant colonel.
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EXHIBITORS

COLTENE’s Surgitip-Endo aspirator tip made for drying root canals

By COLTENE Staff

COLTENE’s ROEKO Surgitip-Endo aspirator tip was specifically developed for drying root canals. It features a ball joint design that allows for a multidirectional flexibility — allowing access into hard-to-reach root canals without having to bend the CanalTip. Its design enables aspiration to be highly effective at all angles without constricting visibility, according to the company. Surgitip-Endo is individually packaged and comes ready to use with disinfecting rinsing solutions. The time required for final drying of the canal with paper points may be reduced significantly by incorporating the use of Surgitip-Endo. Visit booth No. 303 to experience the Surgitip-Endo and take advantage of the show special — buy 10 packs of paper points, get one pack of Surgitip-Endo.

Here in Denver

For more information and to try out the Surgitip-Endo aspirator tip, head to booth No. 303. While there, be sure to take advantage of the ‘buy 10 packs of paper points, get one pack of Surgitip-Endo’ show special.

The Surgitip-Endo aspirator tip.

Photo/Provided by COLTENE
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Gutta-percha removal: Easy to proceed

By Kohdent Roland Kohler Medizintechnik Staff

Designed especially for the orthograde revision of an endodontic treatment, gutta-percha removers, according to Dr. Med. Yoshi Terauchi, are very suitable. The instruments have been proven for years in their daily clinical use.

However, there is nothing that cannot be made even better. Thus Kohler, along with Terauchi, have modernized the instruments.

Now, the micro-hooks on the fine working ends are produced to utmost precision and ensure a tight hooking into the gutta-percha, according to the company, which asserts that they also provide outstanding tensile strength and stability at the same time.

The new handle made of PEEK, a shape- and color-stable high-performance plastic, is extremely light — each instrument weighs only 12 grams — and the black surface reduces light reflection under magnification/microscope.

The micro-hooks on the fine working ends are produced to utmost precision and ensure a tight hooking into the gutta-percha, according to Kohdent Roland Kohler Medizintechnik.

Here in Denver

For more information on the gutta-percha removers, stop by the Kohdent Roland Kohler Medizintechnik booth, No. 217. You can also contact the company by email at info@kohler-medizintechnik.de or go online to www.kohler-medizintechnik.de.

The handle design combines the advantages of simple cleaning and sterilization with outstanding grip characteristics, according to the company.

The instruments are available in four versions, adapted to different clinical situations: Length of working ends 30 mm or 18 mm and hooks to left/right or up/down.

For more information on the gutta-percha removers, stop by the Kohdent Roland Kohler Medizintechnik booth, No. 217. You can also contact the company by email at info@kohler-medizintechnik.de or go online to www.kohler-medizintechnik.de.
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Planmeca launches ULD certification program to promote patient dialogue on imaging radiation levels

By Planmeca USA Staff

In March, during the Hinman Dental Meeting in Atlanta, Planmeca USA introduced a unique certification program designed to encourage dialogue between patients and their dental practitioners on imaging radiation levels.

The Helsinki, Finland-based dental technology company, with North American headquarters in Roselle, Ill., manufactures and sells imaging equipment, such as the Planmeca ProMax® 3Ds, which offers an optional endodontic imaging mode. This CBCT system has a unique ultra-low-dose (ULD) feature that delivers a lower dose of radiation while achieving imaging quality that allows dentists to provide an optimal diagnosis.

“A Planmeca ProMax 3D system using ULD can drastically reduce patient radiation by up to 77 percent — without a statistical reduction in image quality,” said Brett Hines, president of Planmeca USA.

Hines cited a study published by Dr. J.B. Ludlow and D. Koivisto that demonstrates radiation doses used in dental imaging can be reduced without loss of diagnostic quality. The company is not aware of any other dental imaging manufacturer, with independent study, that can claim the same.

Because of attention in the lay press about this issue, it’s more likely that dental patients, too, may have questions and concerns. To help encourage these conversations about imaging safety, Planmeca USA developed a complimentary ULD certification program exclusively for Planmeca ProMax 3D ULD-capable systems.

ULD certification program features:
- Planmeca ULD certified office display materials to inform patients that you are using advanced safety/quality care X-ray equipment
- Access to downloadable digital materials for use on your website and social media outlets to educate and market your practice as Planmeca ULD certified
- Ability to become part of a searchable database of Planmeca ULD certified dentists, for prospective patients who seek low radiation imaging practices in their area
- A complementary program available to all practices using Planmeca ProMax 3D Ultra Low Dose enabled systems

The Planmeca ULD certification registration program is available at www.planmeca.com/na/uld/.

To see the study, go to https://goo.gl/UPW5vL.
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AVALON BIOMED
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Join the 5th Annual Sonendo 5k Fun Run & Walk here at AAE18

By Sonendo Staff

Sonendo® is five for five! For the fifth consecutive year, Sonendo is sponsoring its annual charitable 5K Fun Run & Walk here at the AAE annual session.

The 5th Annual Sonendo 5k Fun Run & Walk takes place starting at 6 a.m. Thursday in the Hyatt Regency’s Centennial Ballroom E with a 10-minute warm-up by Morgan. A member of the Science Cheerleaders, Morgan is both an aerospace engineer and a Denver Broncos cheerleader, who enjoys spending her free time empowering women and encouraging those interested to pursue careers in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) fields.

Online or on-site registrants for AAE and the 5th Annual Sonendo 5k Fun Run will be prompted to make a donation to the Veteran’s Passport to Hope (VP2H), an organization dedicated to raising awareness and resources for U.S. military veterans in Colorado and beyond. VP2H also strives to raise the level of collaboration among veterans organizations, cross-offering resources and services to best serve our troops.

Register for AAE and the 5th Annual Sonendo 5k Fun Run & Walk at http://bit.ly/2FtoAD1 or on-site at the registration desk. For more information, stop by the Sonendo booth, No. 1127.

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Morgan, an aerospace engineer and a Denver Broncos cheerleader, will help get you warmed up before the 5th Annual Sonendo 5k Fun Run & Walk on Thursday morning. Photo/Provided by Sonendo

Educational opportunities

In addition to working out your muscles, Sonendo is also offering a chance to work out your thinking powers here at AAE18 by sponsoring three To the Point corporate lectures, all taking place in the exhibit hall.

- 1 to 2 p.m. today. “Challenging Legacy Ideas and the Endodontic Triad” by Eric Herbranson, BS, DDS, MS
- 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. Thursday. “Incorporating the GentleWave Procedure into a Busy Multi-location Endodontic Practice” by Steven L. Frost DDS, and Jonathan Uhles DDS, MDS
- 12:15 to 1:15 p.m. Friday. “A New Era in Endodontics: How Technology is Coming of Age and Changing Root Canal Therapy” by L. Stephen Buchanan, DDS