

Electric handpiece users: Take notice

In March 2008, the FDA issued a MedWatch Safety Alert discussing patient burns from using improperly maintained handpieces. The article points to worn or poorly maintained speed-increasing handpieces (1:5 increasers). While proper maintenance for handpieces is very important, Daniel Call, customer service manager of Bien-Air USA, explains that the main reason electric handpieces have caused patient burns is because the handpiece has been used as a cheek retractor. This causes the button to touch the spindle moving at 200,000 rpm, creating friction and instant heat without warning.

Many practitioners have experienced the cap heating issue and have posted articles on the FDA Web site. You can test this cap heating theory by running a speed-increasing handpiece out of the mouth and



lightly applying pressure to the cap with your thumb. You will notice that the push button cap will heat up within seconds.

Fortunately, Bien-Air has come up with a solution to this problem. The company has a unique, patented design that helps prevent the cap from overheating. All Bien-Air handpieces are equipped with a patented, anti-heating push button that restricts the contact of the push but-

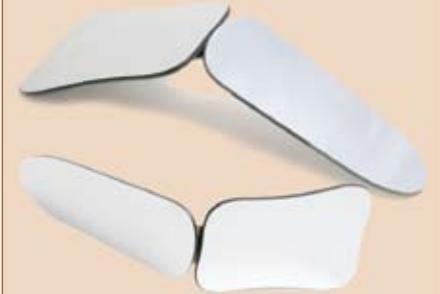


ton cap to the moving parts inside the handpiece head, thus virtually eliminating the potential of push button getting in contact with the handpiece parts rotating at 200,000 rpm.

While it does not completely remove the threat of a heating cap if used as a cheek retractor, it gives significantly more warning than any other 1:5 handpiece on the market.

For a limited time, Bien-Air is offering a trade-in special to all users of electric handpieces. For more information, contact Bien-Air at (800) 433-2346.

PhotoMed Combo Occlusal/Buccal Mirror



The PhotoMed Combo Occlusal/Buccal Mirror combines occlusal and buccal handle mirrors into a single unit. The Combo Mirror is designed for speed and flexibility — simply turn the mirror around for the next view. The mirrors may be removed from the bracket to allow easy sterilization. The Combo Mirror is available in either a chromium or titanium front surface reflective coating.

Additional information available at www.photomed.net or call (800) 998-7765.

Mydent

From Page 9

Mydent also strives to make sure its products keep up with the times. Today that means tackling hot topics such as the MRSA virus and the continued battle against HIV, hepatitis and other diseases that could lurk within the dental practice. It also means being aware of any new viruses that surface and being able to protect the dental practice from those threats.

To do this, Mydent works with a number of people — focus groups; an advisory board consisting of leading dentists, hygienists and assistants; OSAP consultants and more — in terms of choosing which products to carry and educating the dental community about these products.

There is even a newsletter, written by Dr. Carsen Carpenter, founder and CEO of HPTC, the leading source for infection control educational information, which can be found on the Mydent Web site that helps dental practices raise their

level of protection and awareness.

In the end, it still all comes back to the customer. As Mydent International celebrates its 23rd anniversary, Parker reflects on the goals he and his father, Carl, set for the company all those years ago.

“One of our primary goals is to provide the value-priced product line to our health care professionals,” he says. “Our focus is targeted toward research and development and promoting Defend products through our more than 200 dental dealers in the United States and the more than 40 countries we currently are doing business in.”

To see every Defend product and learn about how you can qualify for bonus gifts with every purchase, log on to www.defend.com.

Contact

Mydent International
80 Suffolk Court,
Hauppauge, N.Y. 11788
Phone: (631) 434-3190 or
(800) 275-0020
Fax: (631) 434-7750
www.defend.com

Short Cuts

- ▶ Dental Health Products Inc. opened a new distribution center in Reno, Nev.
- ▶ Bleachorexia is a new term that describes people's obsession with tooth whitening.
- ▶ Dental Health Products Inc. in Wisconsin opened a new distribution office in Pleasanton, Calif., to serve the greater San Francisco Bay Area.
- ▶ 272,000 dental and medical tourists spent \$655 million in India last year; this amount is expected to hit \$2.5 billion by 2012.

- ▶ Dentaray, a start-up firm in Israel, raised \$600,000 to continue its development of new dental lasers.
- ▶ Guardian Life Insurance Company is providing its dental insurance clients a new online tool that calculates the cost of treatments.

For more dental industry news in detail, visit www.dentalfax.com
A service of



SCRUBS AND LAB COATS with Silpure™



Silpure™ provides:



- Antimicrobial protection
- Odor protection

Silpure™ antimicrobial provides (built-in) protection against the destructive action of bacteria.

Be Smart. Be Safe.

OSAP DTA MYDENT INTERNATIONAL 80 Suffolk Court, Hauppauge, NY 11788 DEPENDABLE VALUE CE
www.defend.com 800.275.0020 FAX 631.434.7750 E-MAIL sales@defend.com

AD