

Which ultrasonic does your hygienist prefer?

rochdoc
Rochester, NY
Posts: 80
Reg.: 7/22/2002



Posted: 12/10/2002 9:36:00 AM

Post 1 of 13

I'm looking for a new ultrasonic unit for hygiene. We've tried Pro-Dentec's Piezo and my hygienist didn't like many things about the unit. We have one Odontoson unit that is a few years old and my previous hygienist loved it. Now I have two new hygienists and I want to equip the second one with a real good unit. Cavitron is also a consideration. Any advice?



Matt Miller
Posts: 349
Reg.: 9/23/2001



Posted: 12/10/2002 4:46:00 PM

Post 4 of 13

We switched from Odontoson to Parkell's scaler. We had a handpiece go out on the Odontoson. We had a choice to replace the part for \$500 or...buy a whole new scaler from Parkell for the same price, plus have a 3-month trial period to decide if we wanted to keep it.

cleaning_lady02
Ohio
Posts: 20
Reg.: 11/15/2002



Posted: 12/17/2002 11:10:00 PM

Post 5 of 13

Asking a hygienist or dentist what they prefer for an ultrasonic scaler is like asking a person what sort of car they think is the best. It's very individualistic. As a substitute dental hygienist, I have had the chance to experience all of them. Parkell and Henry Schein put out ultrasonic units that are cheaply priced and are very basic no fuss no muss units. However, they don't have the option for irrigation with them like you get with a Dentsply Cavitron. And in today's era of soft tissue management and chemotherapeutics, it's very beneficial. For the price of 1 Piezo ultrasonic scaler, you can usually buy 2 Cavitron units. My opinion is Piezo scaler units are over priced and over rated. I hate their tips but they do generate less aerosol. My personal favorite is the Dentsply combination Cavitron/prophy jet with the attached irrigation bottles. Having a prophy jet is an added benefit if you have a soft tissue management program in place and chlorhexadine is used often. Prophy jets are also super for ortho patients. Dentsply units are moderately priced as well. Cheaper is not always better. I have also found the Dentsply units to be very durable units. I would add though, just like any piece of equipment, how long it lasts or works depends on how well the owner takes care of it. I also like the greater variety of tips that are available with Dentsply or Hu-Friedy.



doctored
Marin County, CA
Posts: 1,972
Reg.: 9/21/2002



Posted: 12/17/2002 11:25:00 PM

Post 6 of 13

FWIW Parkell does have an accessory that is just like Dentsply's DualSelect. I have both in my office. A patient can alternatively be irrigated with a syringe just as effectively with a substantial savings of the chlorhexidine or iodine with less mess. I forgot what Parkell calls their bottle select system but it is much less expensive than the DualSelect. My Parkell units perform as well or better than the Dentsply units and need much less repairs. I agree that Dentsply has the best assortment of tips available.



uscrdh84
Posts: 1
Reg.: 4/15/2002



Posted: 12/17/2002 11:29:00 PM

Post 7 of 13

I am also a hygienist and I agree with Cleaning Lady! Dentsply Professional has a great compact unit. It is new and costs about \$1600. You get a lot for your money and can also irrigate with this unit. It is VERY compact and can set at the side of the dental chair and not take up counter space or get in the way.

I highly recommend you take a look at this unit. Your Dentsply rep will take you on a complimentary tour of this. Also there are a wide variety of ultrasonic scalers for every different type of patient. If you have a hygienist who likes to use the slim line on a regular re-care patient that is available and they make great ultrasonic tips for even the furcation area!

Continued on page 34

DentalTown Gathering Viva Las Vegas!



Video & Audio Available

It's not too late to experience the speakers and all the amazing practice building **PEANUTS** from the most talked about dental meeting of the year!

Order Today!
1-866-DEN-TOWN

or visit

www.towniemeeting.com

DentalTown Gathering **2004!** Viva Las Vegas!

Mark Your Calendars!

March 25 - 27, 2004

**Aladdin Hotel & Casino
Las Vegas, NV**

For attendance, sponsorship, or exhibiting information please call:

(866) DEN-TOWN
www.towniemeeting.com

FREE FACTS, circle 17 on card

Which ultrasonic does your hygienist prefer?

Continued from page 32

rochdoc

Rochester, NY Posts: 80 Reg.: 7/22/2002



Posted: 12/18/2002 8:57:00 AM
Post 8 of 13

I definitely appreciate the replies. I really do want to be able to irrigate for STM patients so that's a strong deciding factor. The Odontoson is very expensive! My office came with one but I've had to replace a tip or two and they cost a bundle. The frequency is 42k Hz compared to 25-30 with other units but I don't know how much difference it makes. The hygienist who has used it in my office swears by it on heavy calculus cases and for STM since you can dip the pick-up in a variety of irrigants. The cost is just way too much though. I'll definitely look into the Dentsply product.

rubber_dam_man

Posts: 2,115 Reg.: 3/28/2002



Posted: 12/18/2002 10:07:00 AM
Post 9 of 13

I see absolutely nothing a Dentsply does that Parkell doesn't. The Parkell is smaller, cheaper, uses all the Dentsply tips, has an irrigator, and does the 25/30 "thing". I have one extra (you can afford to do that with Parkell) so if there is any problem, we always have an ultrasonic scaler. I would be interested to hear why people would spend twice as much for the "name brand". Parkell is solid with a 5-year warranty. Any repairs I've had were covered and returned promptly.

shazammer

Hortonville, WI Posts: 300 Reg.: 12/19/2000



Posted: 12/18/2002 4:34:00 PM
Post 10 of 13

I have read absolutely nothing that supports irrigation with therapeutics being any more beneficial than plain water doing the Cavitation "thing". Except, maybe, povidine iodine. That said, the Parkell is a great little machine.

rubber_dam_man

Posts: 2,115 Reg.: 3/28/2002



Posted: 12/19/2002 7:06:00 AM
Post 11 of 13

Shazammer, agreed! Everything I've read indicates using special irrigants (except iodine, which has a high allergenicity, issue) is of negligible additional benefit. A couple of things though, the irrigant (dilute Listerine or full strength chlorhexidine) is at room temp to elicit a lesser cold response in sensitive teeth and the taste (not a bad taste) imparts a "medicinal feel" to the patient.

Want to know more? This is just a sample of the information available on the www.dentaltown.com message boards in the Hygiene Discussions forum—Search Words (typed exactly): odontoson vs. other ultrasonics.