

Topsham Dental Arts' Top Five

	Milestone Scientific's The Wand	Digital X-rays and PAN	RGP Dental doctor & assistant stools	A-dec 500 patient chair & delivery unit	Picasso Soft Tissue Laser
When did you start using it?	Howard: About 1994 I saw one at the Yankee Dental Congress and though I would give it a try. We have one in every operatory now.	When we opened this practice in 2008.	Howard: When I began to have lower back pain about 14 years ago I tried one and the pain disappeared. So when we furnished this office I advised Polly and Greg to use them.	When we opened September of 2008.	We had a soft tissue laser for a number of years at our previous office. So a laser was at the top of our wish list after opening this office. Picasso made our wish come true sooner than we expected.
Why can you not live/work without it?	The Wand reduces stress for both patient and dentist. Knowing that the patient is comfortable even while being given anesthesia is central to our enjoyment of dentistry.	We appreciate the instant images and the ease with which patients can interpret what they see on the screen.	Back pain has no place in dental practice!	The patient chair is so comfortable. The thin back is kind to our knees. The built-in electric motor and ultrasonic scaler minimizes the shelf clutter and cord tangles. Another great feature is the composite mode light button.	There is no better way to remove tissue obstructions, frenums and excess gingiva with accuracy while incurring minimal damage to adjacent tissue. All this translates into a comfortable outcome for the patient.
When do you use the item?	Every time anesthesia is needed.	For all radiographs.	All day, every day.	All day, every day.	Gingival recontouring, troughing for impressions, lesion removal, and frenectomies.
How do you market this item to your patients?	In our advertising (Yellow Pages, Web site), whenever giving tours of the office and by explanation when it is used.	It markets itself. We like to point out that radiation exposure is cut by half with the digital process.	Not applicable.	We tell them that we spent a lot of time choosing the most comfortable chair that we could find for them.	Our ads mention it (Yellow Pages, Web site and other ads) and we explain it as we use it.
If you could change anything about the item, what would it be?	The aspirate mode should not be the default setting as it is not needed in most cases.	Thinner, softer, wireless sensors would be nice. Positioning the sensors to open the contacts between anterior teeth can be challenging.	Nothing.	We would make it an over the patient system instead of a Radius set-up. It is bulky and awkward to maneuver. The answer to this problem might be the 300 series that has just come out.	The angle of the tip. There are places where a right angle would be more convenient.