

THE MAGICAL PRACTICE BUILDER

PAIN-FREE COMMITMENT

Julian Webber writes for PPD about his commitment to pain-free endodontics and top tips for his 'couldn't do without' item, The Wand

It's far easier now to do a root canal than it ever was before, thanks to all the fancy instruments, gizmos and gadgets that we have. However, the basic principles remain exactly the same.

One of the biggest advances is the advent of technology which has made it possible to anaesthetise the patient so that there is no discomfort, whether from the anaesthetic itself or the treatment.

I use The Wand and have done for the last



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www.roottreatmentuk.com

13 years. What appealed to me originally was that it is very non-invasive. I feel I can give an injection absolutely painlessly without the need for a topical anaesthetic. The variety of different injection techniques available with The Wand, especially in and around the palatal area, are innovative and very well accepted by the patients - much more so than conventional syringe anaesthetic delivery systems.

TECHNIQUE

How it works, in essence, is that the anaesthetic is delivered ahead of the needle. A technique is recommended of pushing on the tissue before you actually start the injection and starting to inject before you pierce the tissue. So a topical anaesthetic itself is delivered. I find that technique excellent for all Wand recommended protocols - which are numerous. And it is a big practice builder.

The patients love it and always comment positively on it.

There is always a learning curve with something new, but I would say it was minimal with regard to The Wand. I particularly like the new Wand, the STA system - the ease of giving intra-ligamental anaesthesia and the feedback it gives me - so I know I am actually in the periodontal ligament - it is very worthwhile and certainly at any stage of the endodontic procedure the intra-ligamental technique with the STA Wand alone is more than adequate.

TRULY PAINLESS

I don't know what percentage of Wand users there are in the UK, but I think it should be

JULIAN WEBBER'S TOP TIPS FOR THE WAND

- Maximise the use of palatal and periodontal ligament injections as they numb the tooth and not the mouth
- When injecting into the palate, press a cotton bud (The Wand is supplied with tipped applicators) against the back of the bevel to create pressure anaesthesia and to catch drops
- Another technique for preventing the anaesthetic dripping into the patient's mouth when injecting into tight tissue is to leave the aspirate button on at the end of the injection. This causes the anaesthetic to be sucked inwards. Tap the foot pedal and withdraw the needle after three beeps then lift the handpiece out of the mouth
- When carrying out a block, place the needle on the mucosa, then rotate the handpiece several times through an arc of 180 degrees. This equalises the pressure on the needle bevel, allowing it to go straight in to the injection site
- It's possible to conceal The Wand from phobics and nervous patients. This can be achieved by removing a section of the plastic handpiece so you can hide the rest of the handpiece and needle inside your hand. It's advisable to carry out this process for PDL and palatal injections as it enables even better control and improves access
- If you use 2.2ml cartridges always keep a spare adaptor so that you are not left with an unusable Wand if you lose the only one
- Avoid running out of handpieces by hiding a number, say 15, so that you have a buffer stock if you use all the others up. This will ensure you do not run out whilst waiting for the next delivery.

ENDODONTICS IN FOCUS



Julian Webber says his patients always comment on the pain-free experience offered by The Wand

high. I always advocate it - I talk about it in my lectures, I show images and I always recommend the UK distributor, DPS. I suppose it is like anything, it is the initial cost

that puts people off. And as there is a learning curve, if a dentist doesn't master it straight away, it goes in the drawer. I can only say that it is worth persevering with because you can reassure patients with complete confidence when you say there will be no discomfort.

Any anaesthetic technique should be painless; with The Wand STA it always is. It uses the same amount of anaesthetic and it takes the same amount of time as a conventional syringe, perhaps marginally less. The faster you are giving the local anaesthetic,

the much greater opportunity there is for discomfort during the delivery, which is a common complaint.

The Wand STA automatically reduces the speed at which I can administer the solution and therefore keeps the opportunity for pain at bay. So for me speed is not the issue. It is the fact that with the technology as it is, I can give a truly painless injection and that is all I am really interested in.

For more information on The Wand, please contact Dental Practice Systems on 01438 820550 or visit www.d-p-s.uk.com

To ask a question or comment on this article please send an email to: comments@ppdentistry.com



WEBBER ON ENDO

WITH LIVE DEMONSTRATIONS

Royal College of Physicians, London
9 Dec 2011

A one-day seminar providing essential updates in endodontics for both general practitioners and endodontists from world-renowned endodontist, Dr Julian Webber. Delegates will be treated to a series of lectures, discussions and live demonstrations on the key issues in endodontic treatment.

This seminar will deal with new concepts and technologies as they relate to clinical endodontics. The techniques learnt will arm delegates with the ability to produce clinically superior results to a standard that can be immediately implemented into your practice. 7 hours verified CPD.

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ENDODONTICS SECTOR INSIGHT

QUALITY ENDODONTIC DISTRIBUTORS

Quality Endodontic Distributors is delighted to introduce VDW's new Reciproc - a new concept in canal preparation. Reciproc is a one-file system where, in most cases, no glide path is required. It works with a reciprocating action, driven through the VDW Silver Reciproc motor, which can also be used with conventional rotary file systems. Reciproc is made from M-wire NiTi, which is stronger and more flexible than standard NiTi. There are three files in the range that all have a regressive taper, meaning the apical portion of the file has the greatest taper. The Reciproc file sizes are R25 (08/25), R40 (06/40) and R50 (05/50), which are available in lengths 21, 25 and 31mm. The system also has matching gutta percha and paper points.



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QED is the sole UK distributor for the Superendo B&L-beta cordless backfill obturation delivery device. The Superendo B&L-beta enables fast and easy delivery of warm obturation material for the endodontic backfill technique, facilitating rapid obturation of even the most difficult root canals more completely, in less time, and with less patient discomfort. The Superendo B&L-beta is cordless, compact and easy to handle. It features variable temperature settings, which allow practitioners to control the flow characteristics of the material; a rechargeable lithium ion battery, which will support hours of use from a single charge; and a choice of needle size of 23g or 25g with a 360-degree swivel for improved access.



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Only available from QED, the Superendo B&L-alpha II cordless vertical compaction device is one of the latest additions to the cordless range of endodontic equipment, featured in QED's catalogue and on its website. Supplied with three tips, the Superendo B&L-alpha II is the ultimate in cordless warm vertical compaction devices and supersedes old-fashioned cable machines. It features multiple temperature settings (150°C, 180°C, 200°C and 230°C) to accommodate both gutta percha and resilon, with a quick heating tip that reaches temperature within 10 seconds. Completely cordless, compact, lightweight and ergonomically designed, it incorporates a rechargeable lithium-ion battery which facilitates multiple uses on a single charge and allows the operator to complete many cases without the need to recharge. A full range of optional tips are available separately.



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QUALITY ENDODONTIC DISTRIBUTORS

QED's cost-effective range of irrigants and similar related products are extremely useful for every practitioner with an interest in endodontics. It offers a comprehensive range which includes chlorhexidine 2% for use as the final irrigation step for long lasting cleaning and disinfection of root canals; sodium hypochlorite 2% and <6% which are used for the irrigation, debridement and disinfection of root canals during and after instrumentation; citric acid which is recommended as a root canal irrigant/cleaner and conditioner - a mild chelating agent it can also be used to dissolve calcium hydroxide from canals; EDTA which facilitates the removal of the smear layer and dentine 'mud', enhancing disinfection and preparing the dentine walls for advanced adhesion of filling materials; and eucalyptus oil. QED's extremely cost-effective irrigant range is just one of the additions detailed within its new endodontic catalogue and is featured online.



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