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Lasers in dentistry: The new edge

The public has an expectation that their dentist should incorporate some, if not all of the latest technological advancements, present in the dental field. Practitioners that use such technology tend to develop a better trust with their patients. Lasers have become such a marvel, both in the dental and medical world. Since the invention of the first laser by Theodore Maiman in 1960, the market has seen the introduction of several different lasers, but the most popular ones used in the dental world are Diodes, Nd:YAG and Er:YAG lasers. In the last two decades, there has been an explosion of research studies in laser applications. Their use and benefits are several and too many to mention in this introduction. The most popular laser procedures carried out are, removal of carious lesions and cavity preparations, without using the drill and without or minimal local anesthetic. The lased surfaces of the teeth result in a very specific surface morphology, with no smear layer ideal for adhesion. Gingival recontouring, troughing, tissue-crown lengthening, removal of inflamed and hypertrophic tissue, frenectomies, tongue-ties, bio-stimulation of aphthous and herpetic lesions, laser periodontal treatment resulting in bone regeneration, laser facial aesthetics and lip plumping without injectable, are just a few of the procedures that can be carried out with lasers, resulting in less pain for the patient and faster healing. The excitement of being on the cutting edge of dentistry makes it more possible than ever to implement the use of lasers.

Biography

Angie Papas has completed her graduation in Dental Surgery from Sydney University in 1991. She has participated in many conferences globally. She has completed her Masters in Lasers from LA&HA Institute in Slovenia.

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