

FDI Symposium Presentations

Advances in Control of Extrinsic Dental Deposits - Plaque, Calculus and Tooth Stains

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Effective cleaning is a key patient motivator for oral hygiene. Dentifrices serve this function by including ingredients such as abrasives, surfactants and specialized cleaning ingredients, such as anticalculus agents. Recently, an improved anticalculus/antistain agent, polypyrophosphate (i.e., sodium hexametaphosphate), has been developed to provide advanced control of plaque, calculus and stain. This ingredient, a polymeric adjunct of a pyrophosphate anion commonly applied in tartar control and whitening dentifrices, is the basis for novel dentifrice formulations, including blend-a-med mediclean, Crest® MultiCare Advanced Cleaning™, and AZ UltraClean. This presentation will introduce this novel tartar control/cleaning agent and review clinical findings.

Recent Advances in Tooth Whitening: The Safety and Efficacy of Modern Tooth Bleaches Including Over-the-Counter Systems

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Since the 1980s, the tray-based vital tooth bleaching systems have undergone numerous modifications, including revisions to tray materials, changes in formulation and increases in peroxide concentration, to address perceived needs for faster and faster whitening. There has been considerable debate with respect to tray design and the incorporation of various agents to reduce sensitivity. Power bleaching, over-the-counter bleaching trays and even whitening toothpastes add to (and perhaps confound) options for bleaching. This critical review addresses the epidemiology of vital tooth discoloration and options for treatment. With the confusing and often contradictory claims, emphasis is given to clinical and preclinical research methods, study design and interpretation. As a case study, development of a novel, hydrogen peroxide strip-based bleaching system (recently introduced as Crest® Whitestrips in the United States) is discussed, including comparative effectiveness and safety outcomes from more than 20 clinical trials. Special focus is given to case selection, risk groups, and the important area of practice management relating to these new options for bleaching.