

ENDODONTIC ASSOCIATES DENTAL GROUP



A periodic publication of
Endodontic Associates Dental Group
for general dentists and office staff.

News you can use

“ The first rule of any technology used in a business is that automation applied to an efficient operation will magnify the efficiency. The second is that automation applied to an inefficient operation will magnify the inefficiency. - Bill Gates ”

Experienced Team

Advanced Technology

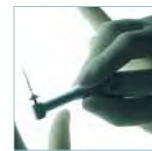
At Endodontic Associates, we strive to provide the best care to your patients. We recognize the importance of balancing our many years of collective clinical experience along with the most up-to-date advancements in the field of endodontics. Our highly trained team is committed to consistently evaluating the benefits of technological advancements in order to maintain exemplary quality of care.

As dental specialists we often get inquiries from the dental community as to “what’s new?” At right, we highlight three key technologies that we use in our office. On page two our article, “Embracing technologies that enhance the practice of endodontics” provides an overview of some of the recent endodontic advancements that we have found to be beneficial in our care and treatment of patients.



Microscope Technology

Endodontic Associates was first in Central California to use the microscope.



Rotary Instruments

These ubiquitous tools enhance mechanical enlargement and debridement of the canal.



Intracanal Irrigation Devices

Several new devices on the market improve the cleaning of the canal after instrumentation.

Embracing technologies that enhance the practice of endodontics

Microscope Technology

As you know, magnification in endodontics has been the state-of-the-art for many years. We were the first endodontic practice in Central California to incorporate the microscope. Dr. Kevin Keating has spent many years teaching other endodontists who were adding the microscope to their practice. He continues to teach endodontic residents in the use of the microscope.

No significant advances have occurred in the microscope other than improved lighting and video capture equipment. There have been some attempts at modifying medical fiber optic video cameras to provide an image on flat panel monitors as is done with medical procedures. However, the loss of stereo vision is a disadvantage of these systems. We have played with fiber optic video capture magnification systems that were in development, but have yet to be impressed.

Rotary Instruments

Several years ago, rotary instruments were introduced to the profession and are now ubiquitous. These tools enhance the mechanical enlargement and debridement of the canal.

Today there are many well established rotary instrument systems which work well when used as recommended by the manufacturer. There are advantages and disadvantages to each instrument system. **Endodontic Associates uses two different systems, employing the most appropriate system dependent upon the advantages in a particular situation.**

Intracanal Irrigation Devices

The new focus in endodontics the past few years is improving the ability to chemically irrigate, clean and disinfect the canal. The use of standard irrigation syringes has the disadvantage of not being able to carry the needle close to the apex in order to deliver the irrigant. There are two reasons for this problem, (1) the size of the irrigating needle, and (2) the risk of injecting irrigants out of the canal.

There are several new devices on the market that we are using to enhance the cleaning of the canal following instrumentation. The two that we are using are the Endo Vac and Endo Activator. We strongly feel these are the best of the new developments in intracanal irrigation.

Endodontic Associates is always trying the newest and best things brought to market to determine if they are an enhancement to the practice of endodontics, to our patients, or to you, our referring doctors. Nothing stays the same, and we are committed to leading the change as it relates to the field of endodontics.

Endo Vac— The Endo Vac is a new device that is a modified cardiac stent. The cardiac stent is a small tube that has been turned into a suction tip that is roughly the diameter of a #32 file. It is carried within 2 mm of the apex and then suction pulls the irrigant through the root canal system. This

flow of irrigant ensures the apical 1/3 is irrigated to significantly enhance the removal of tissue, dentin smear layer and bacterial contamination. The use of suction to move the irrigant near the apex reduces the risk of a severe hypochlorite accident being expressed out the apex of a tooth.

Endo Activator — The other new device, the Endo Activator, is a sonically activated instrument. A plastic file is sonically activated while in the canal. This sonic activity causes acoustic streaming of the irrigant throughout the canal enhancing the cleaning of the canal.

Update: Insurance Enhancements

In light of the recent economy we recognize that referral services performed outside of a patient's insurance network result in co-payments that are not merely an inconvenience, but may pose financial hardship. Based on ongoing communication with referring offices, we concluded that it would be in the best interest of the referrals and their patients for us to become network providers with a more expansive selection of insurance plans (see listing below).

In addition to these insurance enhancements, we also accept both **Care Credit** and **Citi Health** financial plans in an effort to most effectively serve our patients.

We value the relationship we have with you and your patients and hope that these financial modifications demonstrate our proactive response to the present state of the economy. We continue to provide your patients with the most up-to-date technology and best care possible.

Delta Dental (Premier & PPO)
MetLife
Cigna
Premier Access
Local 447 Pipes Trades
DeCare Dental (Teamsters Union)
Connection Dental – GEHA

Showtin' out to all my peeps, stay cool this summer! **Administrative Staff**



Karla Brown
Administrative Coordinator
7 Years



Whitney Greenwald
Financial Coordinator
2 Months



Julie Handy
Professional Relations Coord.
5 years



Rita Helfrick
Administrative Assistant
10 Years



Brenda Hurts
Patient Coordinator
1 year



Kim Miller
Financial Coordinator
6 years



Janel Nofziger
Patient/Financial Coord.
7 years



Leesha Orick
Billing Coordinator
12 Years



Mary Robbins
Practice Administrator
27 years



Beverly Thornburg
Patient/Financial Coord.
7 Years

Endo Class Of 2009

Clinical Staff



Angela Bruner
Dental Assistant
8 Years



Nikki Crigler
Clinical Team Leader
16 years



Razsa Danishyar
Dental Assistant
7 Years



Mary Young
Patient/Financial Coord.
3 years

Have a cushion' summer!



Faiza Ghous
Registered Dental Assistant
1 Year



Stefanie Johnson
Registered Dental Assistant
1 Year



Joann Joslin
Dental Assistant
13 Years



Daniel Keating
Dental Assistant
3 Years



Martha Lira
Registered Dental Assistant
6 years

You ROCK! Keep chillin' all summer long!



Cathy Ramirez
Dental Assistant
9 Years



Adora Retikis
Registered Dental Assistant
2 Years



Jenneen Schafer
Clinical Coordinator
11 Years



Tamara Young
Registered Dental Assistant
8 Years



Endo Goes Down Under

In support of the Sacramento District Dental Society Foundation's annual golf tournament, Endodontic



Associates chose an Australian theme. The tournament was enjoyed by many SDDS members and guests on May 8 at Turkey Creek Golf Course in Lincoln. Many golfers enjoyed our "Down Under" twist which included shrimp "off" the Barbie along with a splash of Foster's or good old icy cold water!

Pictured above from left to right: Dr. Kenneth "Kip" Whitnack, Karla Brown, Mary Robbins and Julie Handy of Endodontic Associates

Endo Bits

🕒 **Fall 2009** – Look for a redesign of our website. The address stays the same:

www.endofiles.com

🕒 **Patient Feedback** – We will be implementing a Patient Satisfaction Survey soon. We think of our office as an extension of yours and want your patients to be satisfied. We'll let you know what they think!

🕒 **Speaking of Feedback** – We love yours! We're always striving to improve our service. Please let us know if you have any suggestions.

🕒 **SDDS Dental Day at Raley Field, June 18, 2009** – Find us at the game and we'll treat you to an ice cream or cold beverage. Introduce yourself to our doctors or staff – we'd love to meet you!



*Committed To Excellence
Through Personalized Care*

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