New products and focus on surgery equipment and digital dentistry

REPLACE YOUR WET DEVELOPER THIS WINTER

Many practices are replacing their old system of X-ray film and a wet developer with digital radiography such as the Durr VistaScan Mini, but is it an easy transition? Well, the plates are the same size and handle in the same manner as film therefore there is little difference in taking intraoral exposures. One difference, however, is that VistaScan plates are noticeably thinner than film and patients often find them more tolerable intraorally.

The processing of the plates is clean, fast and predictable. The plate is placed in the scanning slot, which removes the plastic cover, runs through the Vista Scan Mini and drops out ready for recovering. This takes about 20 seconds per plate.

The Vista Scan Mini has a one-touch on button. This is compared to turning on a wet processor which can take half an hour to come up to the correct temperature, especially on a cold winter's day. There is minimal maintenance required with the Vista Scan Mini beyond a simple wipe of the scanning slot from time to time. No more weekly emptying, cleaning and refilling an old wet processor, which takes hours of valuable time and ruins many uniforms.

Call 01536 526740.

GET A BIT OF HELP WITH IT

A recent survey conducted by MicroMinder of 200 dental practices revealed that 85% of practices would either be unable to trade or be severely affected if their systems were down for one working day. In addition, 90% were concerned about how their practice would recover in the event of a disaster such as a flood, fire or theft, while 50% of practices estimated it would take them in excess of three working days to recover from a disaster.

The survey also brought to light that: 60% of practices check their IT backups less than twice a year, leaving them wide open to partial or complete data loss; 20% of practices have lost critical data (including patient data) due to a hardware/software failure; and 25% of practices have hardware older than four years, which could be a risk to the practice as the equipment is out of warranty and more prone to failure. Micro Minder also discovered that the majority of dentists want to make full use of The Cloud.

Overall, these results strongly suggest that dental practices recognise that business success relies heavily on IT reliability and continuity.

For practices with IT concerns, Micro Minder can help; to find out how, visit www.microminder.com or call 0845 094 1090.

REDUCE THE RISK OF IAN DAMAGE

An increasing number of patients are receiving chronic injury to the inferior alveolar nerve (IAN) due to the rise of dental implant surgery. Damage of this kind is debilitating to patients, causing severe facial pain or numbness and affecting day-to-day activities such as speaking and eating. Dentists can reduce the risk of IAN damage simply by using the CS 9300 system from Carestream Dental, with which the clinician can clearly identify the nerve in three dimensions, thus aiding in the critical diagnosis and treatment decision-making stages.

The all-in-one imaging solution features a flexible field of view for truly adaptable 2D or 3D imaging in the area of interest. Clinicians can select from Focused-Field Mode (5 × 5 cm), which produces unparalleled detail at minimal dose, through to Maxillofacial Mode (17 × 13.5 cm).

The CS 9300 imaging software quickly accesses and reviews images slice by slice, enabling the creation of vivid 3D renderings for precision diagnosis.

For more information, contact Carestream Dental on 0800 169 9692 or visit www.carestreamdental.co.uk.