



Breakthrough in infection control

A new non-toxic, environmentally friendly solution that promises to combat bacterial growth in dental clinics has been released to the UK market. *Dentistry* magazine takes a look

Cross contamination as a result of exposure to blood, saliva, gingival fluids and mucous membranes means that dentistry professionals, as well as their patients, are at high risk as cases of infection after medical treatment continue to soar across the UK.

An estimated 5,000 patients die prematurely every year in England from multi-drug resistant organisms (MRSA) which provides an effective caught in hospitals or clinics

and the figure is rising rapidly. Thousands more suffer from infections caught while being treated and millions of others are at risk, particularly where there is a high throughput of patients undergoing minor surgical procedures, such as dentistry.

Now a leading UK hygiene company, Cannon, has adopted a new technology called Ecallo which provides an effective alternative to the costly and

aggressive chemicals commonly used in infection control procedures.

Ecallo derives its name from electro-chemical activation technology (ECA) first developed in Russia from research undertaken in the 1980s by award-winning scientist Professor Vitold Bakhtir. It has proved effective in combating bacteria, viruses, protozoa, fungi and other microbial sources which are a constant threat in both private

and public healthcare facilities. Such threats are of concern in dental surgeries where the risk of contaminated water lines and the build up of biofilm is particularly high due to the micro-bore water supply systems used.

UK tests

The new Ecallo system has been tested in a UK hospital where it proved effective against all known spores and micro-organisms, including anthrax and MRSA. Its rapid-acting, broad-spectrum anti-microbial agent, Ecasol, is safe, non-toxic and non-allergenic, yet has powerful effects against all known forms of pathogens.

A continuous supply can be created on-site in any size of clinic by installing a compact Ecallo generator unit.

Inside the generator, the Ecasol is created by passing a precisely formulated salt-water solution through a specially developed, flow-through electrolytic reactor which creates an intense electrical field. This results in the instant transformation of the solution into a powerful biocide.

In this way, Ecasol is generated on demand at the touch of a button and supplies each day's disinfection requirement. Dilution allows Ecasol to be used to disinfect at a predetermined strength. The day's disinfectant container is then placed into the dental supply system and can be dosed into air and water lines.

When used in dental water lines, Ecasol kills micro-organisms in an extremely short contact time yet is entirely safe. Unlike many decontaminants, it is highly sporidical yet non-toxic, does not bleach, is virtually odourless and leaves no synthetic chemical residue. Other key benefits of Ecallo for dental practices include the dramatic reduction in time and cost of maintaining hygiene control. It also reduces the need to store and use chemical agents

and dispose of their containers. When used with an auxiliary under-counter reverse osmosis unit and deioniser, Ecallo systems can also supply pure water for autoclave instrument washing. Ecasol can also be applied as a foam, mist, ice or liquid solution to treat the air, surfaces or liquids in all areas of the dental practice, ensuring a safe, clean, germ-free atmosphere for clients and staff.

Confidence in technology

Announcing the launch of the Ecallo system into the UK dental sector, Cannon Ecallo director Oliver Weisflog said: 'The success of this technology abroad cannot be overstated. In Russia it has been used for over twenty years as the principal means of infection control in hospitals and the wider health service. In Europe it is being widely used in water purification and, in particular, the control of Legionella in all types of water systems. There are clear advantages to UK dentists from this system which has been approved by the US Food and Drug Administration for use in dentistry.'

Recent design developments mean the technology can be made available in a range of compact commercial units capable of meeting the needs of all surgical practices from a single dental surgeon to a large community practice.

Cannon Hygiene, a leader in hygiene services in the UK for decades, holds contracts for the provision of services for many UK private and public sector hospitals and clinics. It recognises, however, that the introduction of an entirely new approach to infection control in dentistry will require expert help and advice for dental practitioners before they switch to the new regime. For this reason, Cannon will carry out a detailed site survey and recommend the optimum installation of Ecallo generator plus any auxiliary equipment including dynamic dosing to ensure automatic control of Ecasol levels in the water supply system.

The system also incorporates an electronic interface which automatically records usage and dosing parameters for computer analysis, enabling dentists to comply with health and safety recording requirements. Cannon also provides on-site training and 24-hour technical support for all its Ecallo installations. ■

cannon
ecallo

the technology to make our world cleaner, safer and more hygienic

All around us micro-organisms breed in many forms and, left unchecked, lives are being claimed in increasing numbers.

Our advanced, patented and unique electrochemical activation (ECA) system produces rapid-acting, broad spectrum anti-microbial solutions.

They're effective against all known strains of bacteria, viruses, fungi, spores and microbial toxins. And, unlike their chemical counterparts, they're non-toxic, non-irritant, virtually odourless and environmentally friendly.

the clear solution
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