



Edgewater Dental Office Adds Solea Dental Laser Services

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A visit to the dentist is rarely a pleasant experience. Even basic procedures, like filling a small cavity can leave patients numb for hours and sore for longer. At their Sarnia, Ontario, Canada location, the dental office aims to assuage those fears with the addition of the Solea Dental Laser to their line-up of advanced dental technology. The dental office, which strives to be a leader in modern dental equipment and procedures, is excited about this addition which will allow patients to experience anxiety-free dental care, without the sound of the drill and in the majority of cases, no needle.

Laser dentistry, a relatively new advancement in the dental field, enables dentists to quickly and quietly perform a wide array of dental procedures. Various types of lasers are used in the dental field, with CO2 and water lasers being the most common. Water lasers are most appropriate for soft tissue applications. CO2 lasers have, historically, been most appropriate for hard tissue, like that of teeth. Technological advancement and demand from dental practitioners has brought about the Solea Dental Laser. The Solea is an all-tissue CO2 laser, meaning it is equally effective on hard and soft tissues. It requires no adjustment to move between tissue types. Practitioners appreciate the convenience of the technology, which allows them to perform work in multiple areas of the mouth, moving from hard to soft tissue without a need to change or

adjust their equipment.

In recent years, laser dentistry has become extremely popular with practitioners and patients alike. The most sought-after are all-tissue lasers, like the Solea Dental Laser. All-tissue lasers allow practitioners to make cleaner cuts and ablations, reducing disruption to nerve and other soft tissues. The high energy beam produced by laser dental equipment seals tissue at the time of incision, reducing the risk of infection and bleeding.

From a patient perspective, laser dentistry relieves anxiety, reduces or eliminates pain, and speeds up appointment and recovery times. Procedures performed with all-tissue lasers allow dentists to avoid drills, pain, noise, or anesthetic. The laser acts as a drill, without the noise and vibration. The tissue receiving treatment does not register pain because the nerve is not disturbed. Patients leave their dentist free of pain, with no residual numbness. They are able to get more dental work completed during a standard appointment and can return to their daily routine without distraction or soreness. Recipients of laser dentistry report a marked decrease in anxiety, relating their relief because of the quiet, needle-free experience. Patients who have previously avoided dental care report resuming regular care after undergoing procedures using laser dentistry. At most, Dr. Milne and staff state patients may feel a cold sensation similar to that of eating ice cream.

From a practitioner perspective, laser dentistry increases efficiency, improves patient outcomes, and reduces the risks associated with many dental procedures. When using a conventional drill to remove tooth decay, it relies on friction to cut away infected tooth material, which has been shown to cause tiny cracks in the tooth. The laser uses energy in form of light or photon, to ablate or vaporize tooth material. The laser wavelength is specifically designed to only be absorbed by tooth material (hydroxyapatite and water), which makes it safe to use in the oral environment. Laser dentistry equipment requires a significant investment, but providers report there are significant returns including increased profitability and increased patient satisfaction. Practitioners are able to serve more patients more effectively without extending hours or adding staff. Dental offices offering laser dentistry attract more patients and tend to retain those patients because of the reduction in discomfort usually associated with dental appointments. Laser dentistry is an excellent alternative for treating very young patients who often fear drills, needles, and other dental tools.

Laser dental practitioners must complete intensive training before using the equipment. The training covers equipment set-up, operation, maintenance, and use. Practitioners are able to hone their skills under the supervision and direction of a dentist with advanced experience in laser dentistry. Practitioners are also able to access ongoing training to remain up-to-date on the latest technology in laser dentistry. Continuing education is delivered in a variety of ways to suit the learning style and schedule of individual practitioners, including group sessions, in-person individual training, and online courses.

Dental care is rapidly changing, with new technology being introduced every day. Dr. Jess Milne of Edgewater Dental says, "Dentists leading the pack with science and technology do not do anything the same way it was five years ago." Laser dentistry allows procedures to be completed rapidly, something appreciated by both practitioners and patients. The new technology reduces the time needed to perform dental procedures, enabling practitioners to accommodate busy lifestyles. "Patients are now able to receive the care they need in a fraction of the time," says Dr. Jess Milne.

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Edgewater Dental

The dentists at EdgeWater are a team of professional dentists that strive to deliver quality care to each and every patient. We are compassionate, empathetic, and always make your appointment as comfortable as possible.

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