Are you delivering “Powder Therapy” correctly whilst maintaining healthy and attractive teeth?

A patient’s daily dental care routine is vital for maintaining healthy teeth, but regular professional care is also essential. “Powder Therapy” has already gained an excellent reputation as a suitable and popular treatment option.

“Powder Therapy” is very effective in removing the deposits that cause periodontal disease. But it is not without risks which is why it hasn’t been widely adopted. Read about the risk on p5 onwards in this booklet. However, “Powder Therapy” is a more effective method of removing deposits than traditional methods so long as it is performed correctly.

Full understanding of the effects, usage and precautions required to perform “Powder Therapy” safely will allow you to experience a new era of professional care and comfort for you and your patients.

**“Powder Therapy” refers to all polishing with powder products.**
Why do we need to maintain teeth?

The most important factor for the maintenance of patient’s natural teeth and dental implants in good condition over the long term is the patient’s own oral hygiene routine. However, professional care involving regular maintenance and supportive periodontal therapy, SPT, also plays a major role. A patient’s own oral hygiene routine will almost certainly leave some issues undetected.

The main purpose of maintenance

1. Maintain a healthy periodontium
2. Preventing disease
3. Ensuring quality of life (QOL)

Why is Powder Therapy the best treatment option?

Issues with conventional perioco maintenance are:

- Effective cleaning below the gum line is not possible. Interdental spaces and gingival margins cannot be seen and are difficult to reach.
- The soft tissue and the root surface (dentin) within the delicate periodontal pocket are easily damaged.
- Direct contact devices such as scalers and brushes cannot remove deposits in difficult-to-reach areas.

But with Powder Therapy removal of biofilm can be achieved effectively.

- Effective removal of biofilm: Compared to other treatment options, less biofilm and plaque remains with wide powder dispersal, even in areas that cannot be seen.
- Gentle treatment: The soft powder is less likely to injure tissue as it is gentle to the periodontal pocket.
- Cleaning a wide area of the tooth surface: As a non-contact treatment method it can remove deposits over a wider area that cannot be reached by scalers.

This is a professional method for removing biofilm from inside the periodontal pocket and removing stains and plaque from other tooth surfaces more comfortably than conventional methods for both patient and operator.

What is biofilm?

Biofilm is a thin layer of micro-organisms that forms on the surface such as teeth. The bacteria extrude exopolysaccharide (glycocalyx), which forms a layer on the teeth. The accumulation of bacteria protected by this barrier exists alongside other types of bacteria that cannot attach directly to the tooth surface, besides other bacteria species as well. Interaction and antagonism between nutrients and adhering material creates stable conditions for bacterial colonies. As long as they are within this barrier, the bacteria are protected from attack by the host’s immune system using white blood cells and antibodies. This structure is the biofilm.

Why this needs to be removed?

Once the biofilm has formed on the surface of the teeth, the cleaning action of saliva is lost as it cannot reach the enamel. This creates an environment where bacteria can proliferate easily as they are protected inside the biofilm. This results in dental caries and periodontal disease. White blood cells and antibodies arrive when biofilm grows inside the periodontal pocket but bacteria protected by a barrier of biofilm are not affected by these attacks. Conversely, pathogenic factors and endotoxins produced by the white blood cells damage the gums and increase inflammation.

How can this be eliminated?

Since biofilm has a high resistance to chemotherapies such as antibacterial agents, mechanical destruction and removal with a toothbrush or an ultrasonic scaler is necessary. However, as a tooth brush does not reach inside the periodontal pocket, patients cannot remove biofilm themselves. For this, a mechanical instrument is needed to reach inside the pocket and professional treatment performed by specialists is vitally important. Sub gingival airpolishing has gained attention as an effective method.
What you need to know to perform sub gingival airpolishing therapy with confidence

When performed correctly, sub gingival airpolishing is an effective and comfortable professional treatment. If used incorrectly however, the risk of the following diseases cannot be totally discounted. To carry out treatments with additional safety considerations, please be fully aware of the risks of powder maintenance.

Subcutaneous Emphysema

It is the introduction of air or other gases into soft tissues when using air pressure instruments, which may result in swelling, if this does not become infected it will heal naturally. Treatment with antibiotics may however be an option in certain circumstances.

*Loose connective tissue: the tissues of various structures connected loosely to the body. Structures widely distributed throughout the body such as peripheral glands, surrounding blood vessels and nerves located under the skin or mucous membranes.

**Cause**
Entry of pressurised air from air syringes or turbines. The use of hydrogen peroxide during root canal cleaning.
Air in the nasal cavity, maxillary sinus, or oral cavity from changes in expiratory pressure.

**Symptoms**
Sudden and unexpected symptoms around treatment area, diffuse swelling and dull pain, ear discomfort and so on.

Bacteremia

Situations where bacteria have entered the previously sterile peripheral blood vessels are called bacteremia. Bacteremia associated with dental treatment such as tooth extraction and scaling (SRP), is a temporary condition involving bacterial invasion into the blood vessels around wounds when performing invasive treatment which are then circulated around the whole body. Bacteria are rapidly circulated throughout the system and are mostly removed by the liver so are unlikely to cause infection. However, it is important to gain an understanding of the patient’s medical history as patients with systemic disease or who are immuno-compromised or those with artificial heart valves and prosthetic joints are at a slight risk of complications such as bacterial meningitis and infective endocarditis.

**Cause**
For dentistry, this can occur when brushing, scaling and performing invasive treatment such as tooth extraction.

**Symptoms**
Shivering, chills, fever and weakness.

Inflammation around implants and treatments

Master of Oral Science, Dental Hygienist Nobuko Kashiwai

Conventional dental treatment involved the resection of the affected area to eliminate the problem but current implant treatment now prefers surgical or prosthesis replacement of lost teeth followed by maintenance therapy. The two greatest issues with the long-term success of an implant are the peri-implant mucositis and “peri-implantitis” where inflammation has spread to the surrounding bone. This may cause infection by periodontal bacteria such as Porphyromonas gingivalis. At this stage the inflammation is localised in the mucosa and is reversible if treated by removing the biofilm that acts as a “nest” for pathogens and substances causing inflammation but if the inflammation spreads to the bone, recovery is not expected.

Hardt et al, conducted a study of patients grouped into those with and without a history of periodontal disease and investigated implants embedded in the maxillary molar region over a period of five years. The conclusion was that the group with a prior history were at a disadvantage in terms of the rate of implant loss and the amount of bone resorption. In other words, if a patient has lost a tooth due to periodontal disease they are at risk from the start and treatment should focus on suppressing the formation of biofilm which is the underlying cause in order to control the activity of periodontal pathogens prior to surgery.

Actual treatment requires a communication environment that has been created over a long period of dental appointments. Patients must be proactive in their own personal dental care routine, in addition to understanding the risks associated with biofilm and conditions in their own oral cavity, and we as dental health care professionals must practice professional treatment with reliable results. It is possible to conduct ongoing maintenance therapy in a short time and with minimum discomfort to achieve this, instead of the “long”, “painful”, “difficult” treatments that have been performed up to now. Biofilm is regenerated in a three to four month period. Powder polishing enable to maintain “more reliable” cleanliness of tooth surface by breaking deposition of biofilm apart rather than pressuring by rotary vibration of instrument. Air ablation used in conjunction with debridement and fine water particle dispersal using hand instruments can be used to physically destroy biofilm, while ultrasonic scaling using the cavitation effect is an effective approach towards anaerobic bacteria.

Differing results in terms of efficient use of time and comfort can be obtained, from evidence based steps when they are followed one by one.

Bibliography

Implant case
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Solution</th>
<th>For</th>
<th>At</th>
<th>By</th>
<th>With</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Prophy-Mate neo</strong></td>
<td><strong>Natural tooth</strong></td>
<td><strong>Supra gingival</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>FLASH pearl</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Varios Combi Pro</strong></td>
<td><strong>Natural tooth</strong></td>
<td><strong>Supra gingival</strong></td>
<td>(Gingival margin)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Perio-Mate</strong></td>
<td><strong>Prosthetic tooth</strong></td>
<td><strong>Sub gingival</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Powder particle comparison**

- Conventional sodium bicarbonate powder
  - Average particle diameter: 73 µm
  - SEM image (in 3D)
- **FLASH pearl** (calcium carbonate)
  - Average particle diameter: 54 µm
  - SEM image (in 3D)
- **Perio-Mate powder** (calcium carbonate)
  - Average particle diameter: 25 µm
  - SEM image (in 3D)

**Conventional sodium bicarbonate powder**

- Average particle diameter: 73 µm
- SEM image (in 3D)
- **FLASH pearl** (calcium carbonate)
  - Average particle diameter: 54 µm
  - SEM image (in 3D)
- **Perio-Mate powder** (calcium carbonate)
  - Average particle diameter: 25 µm
  - SEM image (in 3D)
Continuous powerful powder spraying

Fluid analysis developed through our turbine development technology has resulted in powerful yet stable jetting with minimizing powder loss. Enable to reduce treatment time due to high-powered continuous jetting and polishing capabilities.

The powder consists of spherical particles which are kind to the tooth surface

The Supra gingival powder consists of tiny spherical particles that roll across the tooth surface gently and quickly removing stains and plaque. Also as the powder is composed of 94% calcium carbonate, your patients will not experience an unpleasant salty taste. Peace of mind for patients on restricted salt diets.

A reliable design that is resistant to powder clogging

Users can easily disassemble the nozzle, handpiece and powder chamber/ case. On-site maintenance is possible by using the special Auto-cleaning function* which easily ejects any residual powder and water from inside the handpiece. Clogging is reduced as the powder particles are extremely fine and don’t dissolve easily in water. This reduction in internal powder clogging significantly improves reliability. *For maintenance Prophy-Mate neo use blower nozzle.

Guide for using prophy (when using FLASH pearl)

Before use

Protect the face of patients with a towel or alike, and make sure that the operator is also wearing a mask and goggles before use.

Suggestions for more comfortable treatment

- Apply vaseline to the patient’s lips to prevent drying or cracking during treatment.
- Patient comfort can be improved by placing gauze or cotton roll between the cheeks, lips, tongue and gums to prevent the Powder frrom spreading.
- Use cheek retractor to increase the field of view and facilitate smoother nozzle maneuverability.

Precautions for use

- Use high volume suction and if necessary additionally a saliva ejector to prevent the patient from ingesting large amounts of powder.
- Never aim to point towards any parts of soft tissue or the sub gingival area.
- Do not spray directly onto the cement in the root canal, decalcified enamel, fillings, margins between tooth and fillings/prosthesis.

How to hold

Hold the handpiece firmly so that it can be turned using the fingertips.

Usage

Perform the spray so that the spherical particle powder rolls over the tooth surface at the angle shown in the diagram of the nozzle in relation to the tooth surface.

Removal of extensive stain and plaque

Move the nozzle slowly at a distance of between 5 mm to 10 mm so that the spray can cover the entire tooth surface.

Removal of localised stains and plaque

Perform pinpoint spray with the nozzle at a distance of between 3 mm to 5 mm.
Powder therapy for perio

NSK provides a more efficient “Powder Therapy” method

- Designed to achieve optimum powder flow rate for sub gingival air polishing. A gentle powder flow rate setting, reduced to about 70% of that of Prophy-Mate neo (NSK’s air-polishing device).

- Provides a powder flow rate and ejection pressure adjustment function, allowing accurate adjustment to suit the treatment needs.

- A limit can be set for cases treated (number of periodontal pockets, inflammation).
  * Please refer to the user manual for details on usage.

The nozzle tip is designed so that the powder flows over the entire sub gingival surface exposed to the nozzle when used in the periodontal pocket. For this reason, the powder ejected from the nozzle is not dispersed with excessive force in only one direction. The safe design ensures powder/air does not directly make contact with the bottom of the pocket as channels for delivering powder/air and water are separate.

The “Perio-Mate Powder” used is highly water soluble to prevent sub gingival retention and has a lower Mohs hardness than dentin.
  * Glycine ranks 2 on the Mohs hardness scale, while dentine is 2 to 2.5

Fast and effective SOLUTION removal capability

Biofilm in the periodontal pocket can be removed in approximately 60 seconds per quadrant.

* One tooth, one surface: 4.8 seconds

* Surface area of one quadrant: Approximately 60 seconds

Extensive removal of biofilm inside and outside the periodontal pocket in only 4.8 seconds per single tooth surface.

- As the powder is ejected over a wide area, biofilm can be removed from inside the periodontal pocket in approximately 4.8 seconds per tooth surface area.

- Deposits can be removed without direct contact with almost none of the extensive biofilm and plaque adherence remaining and the results are effective. It is possible to clean areas the tip cannot reach with the powder injection effect.

- Treats a broad spectrum from fast targeted biofilm removal to peri-implants and delicate periodontal pockets.

- By removing the Perio-Mate nozzle tip, it is possible to approach the gum line and sub gingival area up to 3 mm below the pocket which are the areas requiring most frequent treatment.

**Precautions for use**

- There is a risk of emphysema occurring with excessive air delivery pressure. Please make sure to use the correct air pressure. Please set the ejection air pressure so that there is at least a slight spray out of the periodontal pocket. Also, please make adjustments to an appropriate air supply pressure while monitoring the patient’s condition.

- Please do not use the Perio-Mate on root surfaces where scaling treatment has just been performed.

- Please adjust the powder ejection quantity with the flow rate adjustment ring to suit patient and gum conditions.
Guide for using periop

Before using
Protect the face of patients with a towel or alike, and make sure that the operator is also wearing a mask and goggles before use.

How to hold
Hold the handpiece firmly so that it can be turned using the fingertips.

Powder flow adjustment
Please adjust the ejection quantity once you have observed the treatment site and the patient’s condition.
- Adjusting from MAX: deep periodontal pockets, bifurcation, removing light stains.
- Adjusting from MIN: shallow pockets, tight gums, plaque removal at the gum line.

⚠️ Precautions for use
- Irrigate during treatment.
- Use of suction is recommended during treatment.
- Do not use inside a periodontal pocket and without a tip nozzle.

Supra gingival

- Please use with the nozzle tip removed from the nozzle of the Perio-Mate handpiece.

Instruction
- Removal of plaque biofilm from the gingival margin (up to approximately 3 mm inside the pocket).

To spray, direct the nozzle toward the gingival margin at the distance and angle as shown in the diagram. Maneuvre slowly at this time to ensure the entire tooth surface is sprayed.

*Do not position the nozzle tip too close to the tooth surface as the removal function is reduced if the nozzle is positioned less than 2 mm from the tooth surface.

Removal of light staining following extensive deposition.
To spray, direct the nozzle toward the tooth surface at the distance and angle as shown in the diagram. Move as if drawing small circles.

Sub gingival

- Please use with a nozzle tip attached to the nozzle of the Perio-Mate handpiece.

*Ensure the nozzle tip is fully inserted into the interior. There is a risk of aspiration accidents if dropped during treatment.

Instruction
- Erasing biofilms in periodontal pocket from 3 mm to 6 mm below the end of the gingival margin after basic periodontal treatment.

1. Slowly insert the nozzle tip 3 mm or more to the position most appropriate for treatment. Please adjust the insertion depth at this time to suit each individual patient’s pocket values. Please do not insert the nozzle tip to the bottom of the periodontal pocket and carry out ejection. There is a risk of air embolism.

*There have been cases where inserting the tip 3 mm into the periodontal pocket results in ineffective powder ejection.