ADHA supports new community water fluoridation recommendation

By ADHA Staff

On April 27, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) released the final Public Health Service (PHS) recommendation for the optimal fluoride level in drinking water to prevent tooth decay. The new recommendation is for a single level of 0.7 milligrams of fluoride per liter of water.

This updates and replaces the previous recommended range (0.7 to 1.2 milligrams per liter), issued in 1962.

More information

Information for healthcare providers on how to prevent tooth decay and reduce the chance of developing dental fluorosis may be obtained by visiting www.cdc.gov/fluoridation.

Because it is now possible to receive enough fluoride with slightly lower levels of fluoride in water, HHS developed the new PHS recommendation for community water fluoridation. This change will maintain the protective decay prevention benefits of water fluoridation and reduce the occurrence of dental fluorosis.

“While additional sources of fluoride are more widely used than they were in 1962, the need for community water fluoridation still continues,” said U.S. Deputy Surgeon General Rear Admiral Boris D. Lushniak, MD, MPH. “Community water fluoridation is effective, inexpensive and does not depend on access or availability of professional services.”

For the past 70 years, communities across the United States have found that fluoride in their public water systems significantly improved their residents’ oral health. Nearly 75 percent of Americans who are served by public water systems receive fluoridated water.

The ADHA is a supporter of community water fluoridation — the ADHA’s Policy Manual states that community water fluoridation is a “safe and effective method for reducing the incidence of dental caries.” In addition, the organization also promotes the “education of the public and other health professionals regarding the preventive and therapeutic benefits of fluoride.”
Here at the ADHA

For more information on exhibitors, educational sessions and events, pick up the on-site guide or input www.eiseverywhere.com/emobile/mobile/live/ADHA15 into your mobile phone browser to download the app.

filled with companies spotlighting their newest products and technology, all designed to make a hygienist’s job just a little bit easier.

Some of the products you should check out include:

- In booth No. 704, Designs for Vision is offering up the Micro 3.5F Scopes, which reduce the weight of the prismatic telescope by 40 percent while providing an expanded-field, full-oral-cavity view at 3.5x magnification. The scopes are custom manufactured to each person, and the focal length is matched to the individual’s ideal working distance for a true personal experience.

- In booth No. 623, LM-Dental has a line of ergonomic air polishing instruments. The LM-ProPower’s soft silicone handles give you a comfortable, relaxed grip as well as an excellent feel, according to the company.

- Finally, in the ADHA/Henry Schein Innovation Center, at the end of the 500 aisle, you can get a look at new technologies, products and equipment that has been introduced to the market within the last 18 months. Participating companies include Crest + Oral-B P&G Professional Oral Health, Dental EZ Group, Henry Schein Dental, OraPharma and Philips ZOOM!
More than three decades have passed since the emergence of human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) as a global pandemic. More than any other infection, it is possible to single out HIV as the primary stimulus for changing infection control practices in dentistry. Prior to the mid-1980s, it was uncommon for dentists and allied professionals to wear gloves during routine dental procedures. Many dental clinics did not use heat sterilization, and disinfection of surfaces was limited to a cursory wipe with an alcohol-soaked gauze sponge. This was despite our knowledge that hepatitis B virus (HBV) had been spread in clusters in the offices and clinics of infected dentists and that dentists were clearly at occupational risk for acquiring HBV.

Plenty of reasons to remain vigilant

Today, many take safe dental care for granted, but there is still reason to remain vigilant in ensuring an infection-free environment for providers and patients. HIV has fortunately proven to be easily controlled in a clinical environment using the same precautions as those effective for preventing the transmission of HBV and hepatitis C virus.

These standard precautions include the use of personal protective attire, such as gloves, surgical masks, gowns and protective eyewear, in combination with surface cleaning and disinfection, instrument sterilization, hand hygiene, immunizations and other basic infection-control precautions. Sporadic reports of transmission of blood-borne diseases associated with dental care continue but are most of...
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Once-rare viruses now in headlines
Emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases present a real challenge to all health-care providers. Three of the more than 50 emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases identified by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the World Health Organization (WHO) include Ebola virus disease (EVD), pandemic influenza and severe acute respiratory syndrome.

These previously rare or unidentified infectious diseases burst into the headlines in the past several years when they exhibited novel or uncharacteristic transmission patterns.

Concern about emerging infectious diseases arises for several reasons. When faced with a particularly deadly infectious disease such as EVD, which can be spread through contact with an ill patient’s body fluids, health-care workers are naturally concerned about how to protect themselves if an ill patient presents to the dental clinic.

With diseases such as pandemic influenza and severe acute respiratory syndrome, which may be spread via inhalation of aerosolised respiratory fluids when a patient coughs or sneezes, the concern is whether standard precautions will be adequate.

In addition to standard precautions, treating patients with these diseases requires the use of transmission-based precautions. These encompass what are referred to as contact, droplet and airborne precautions for diseases with those specific routes of transmission.

Transmission-based precautions may include patient isolation, placing a surgical mask on the patient when he or she is around other people, additional protective attire for care providers and, in some cases, the use of respirators and negative air pressure in a treatment room.

In most cases, patients who are contagious for infections requiring droplet or airborne precautions should not be treated in a traditional dental clinic setting.

Treatment delay can be best policy
Updating a patient’s medical history at each visit will assist dental health professionals in identifying patients who are symptomatic for infectious diseases. Patients with respiratory symptoms, including productive cough and fever, should have their dental treatment delayed until they are no longer symptomatic.

Additionally, health-care professionals who are symptomatic should refrain from coming to work until they have been free of fever without taking fever-reducing medication for 24 hours.

In most cases, a patient with symptoms as severe as those experienced with EVD will not present for dental care and therefore extraordinary screening and protective protocols are not recommended. If a patient is suspected of having a highly contagious disease, he or she should be referred to a physician, hospital or public health clinic.

Protect yourself and patients with vaccinations, proper hand hygiene
Dental professionals should take action to remain healthy by being vaccinated according to accepted public health guidelines, understanding that the recommendations may differ according to country of residence.

Performing hand hygiene procedures at the beginning of the day, before placing and after removing gloves, changing gloves for each patient, wearing a clean mask and gown or laboratory coat, and wearing protective eyewear are all positive actions that help prevent occupational infections.

In addition, cleaning and heat sterilization of all instruments and disinfection of clinical surfaces ensure a safe environment for patients.

There is solid evidence that dental care is safe for patients and providers when standard precautions are followed, but patients and dental health-care workers are placed at risk when precautions are compromised and breaches occur.

References
For more information, call 1.800.989.8826
Often, smaller is a big improvement. Designs for Vision Inc. has introduced two small innovations: the Micro 3.5EF Scopes and the ULTRA Mini 2.5x Telescopes. These new optical systems are designed to be lighter and more comfortable for all-day use.

The Micro 3.5EF Scopes use a revolutionary optical design that reduces the weight of the prismatic telescope by 40 percent, while providing an expanded-field, full-oral-cavity view at 3x magnification. The Micro 3.5EF Scopes are also 50 percent smaller and easier to view around peripherally than other expanded-field loupes. The Micro 3.5EF Scopes are custom manufactured to each person, and the focal length is matched to the individual’s ideal working distance.

“We listened to hygienists who wanted the field of view of an expanded-field 3x telescope but were concerned about wearing them all day because of the size and weight,” said Designs for Vision President Richard Feinbloom. “Designs for Vision was started by my father, Dr. William Feinbloom, as an optical company in 1961 to design innovative head-borne optical devices, and the new Micro 3.5EF Scopes continue that tradition of optical innovation.”

The 2.5x ULTRA Mini Telescopes weigh as little as 34 grams (1.2 ounces) and are 40 percent smaller.

“The ULTRA Mini Telescopes, like our world-renowned dental telescopes, provide 2.5x magnification that is fully customized to the individual user, providing ergonomic advantages to our customers,” Feinbloom said. “Designs for Vision matches the focal length of each telescope to the ideal working distance of our customers. This way the depth of focus surrounds the individual’s ideal working distance instead of adapting to a pre-set focal length. We have been working with dentists and hygienists who require true 2.5x magnification but desire a lighter, smaller device for all-day use.”

Designs for Vision wanted to design and engineer a full-feature system that offered all of the features customers expect from its products. The ULTRA Mini Telescopes can be built into any of the company’s frames — including its Nike® Skylon Ace sport frame — and are fully customized. The lens system uses the same precision-coated optics as our traditional magnification systems,” Feinbloom said. “We can also accommodate eyeglass prescriptions into the ULTRA Mini Telescopes. Combining the Micro 3.5EF Scopes or 2.5x ULTRA Mini Telescopes with either the LED DayLite® ULTRA Mini or NanoLite® headlights provides contrast and further enhances visibility. Designs for Vision’s combos are a fraction of the weight of some light/loupe combo systems on the market, according to the company.

Designs for Vision, which invented “Through-the-Lens” technology, is a small company that has been privately held since its founding in 1961. You can “See the Visible Difference®” of Designs for Vision yourself by taking the company’s “45-Day Challenge,” which lets you compare any Designs for Vision product for 45 days risk free.

Here at the ADHA
Learn more about Designs for Vision and all of its products at the booth, No. 701.
One prophy paste for every need

Gelato comes in six flavors

By Keystone Industries Staff

Dental professionals can spend copious amounts of time searching for a prophy paste that does it all.

A paste considered to be ideal would be one that works well for the hygienist, does its job in patients’ mouths and enables patients to leave the office with a good taste.

With Gelato prophy paste by Keystone Industries, the possibilities have no limits, according to the company.

The paste, which provides a smooth, splatter-free application, is 1.23 percent fluoride ion and will leave a patient’s teeth with excellent polish — and stains removed.

Minimal enamel loss is met with each use.

Review: ‘Top Prophy Paste’

One of the biggest bragging rights Gelato prophy paste has earned is from The Dental Advisor.

For two consecutive years (2013 and 2014), Keystone’s paste won Top Prophy Paste. In the review, based on more than 2,500 uses with 35 consultants, it earned a 4.5 grade out of 5 and a 91 percent clinical rating.

The ranking would appear to confirm how the paste gets the clinical job done and also provides patients with the flavor options to leave their mouths feeling fresh and clean.

Coming in four different grits (fine, medium, coarse and x-coarse), Gelato has a wide range of uses for removing stains.

Dental hygienists normally use the fine grit for routine work and move their way up the grit scale for heavier stain removals.

A flavor for every taste

Keystone’s Gelato comes in six flavors: bubble gum, cherry, mint, piña colada, orange sherbert and raspberry. The paste is available in 6- and 12-ounce jars, and also boxes of 200 individual cups.

Here at the ADHA

To order the Gelato prophy paste, visit Keystone Industries online at www.keystoneind.com/en/home.
The next evolution in dental hygiene is here.

Introducing the NEW TurboVue™ illuminated magnetostrictive ultrasonic scaler.
This uniquely engineered device provides excellent visibility when scaling all areas of the oral cavity. The TurboVue features a patented light source built into the handpiece allowing a significant amount of light to emit through the 30K, light-transmitting ultrasonic inserts.

Whether it’s the distal of a second maxillary or mandibular molar, a furcation or a deep lingual pocket you’re trying to access, the intense light of the TurboVue will illuminate even the toughest corners ensuring that you won’t miss anything. Plus, the light saves on the operator’s eyes. No more squinting or messing with the overhead lamp or loupes.

The TurboVue also features auto-tuning technology, a dramatically expanded low-power range that improves comfort during debridement, and a power-boosting Turbo feature for an increase in scaling power when needed.

Like all other Parkell devices, the TurboVue comes with a 5-year warranty.* Plus there is a 90-day trial period with the TurboVue! Purchase the unit, and try it in your office for 3 months. If you aren’t satisfied, we’ll give you a full refund including the standard original shipping charges.

**Special Introductory Offer!**

Call 1-800-243-7446 now to order the new TurboVue™ scaler at a special introductory price, PLUS we’ll include THREE 30KHz inserts of your choice!

New TurboVue™ Illuminated 30KHz Magnetostrictive Ultrasonic Scaler
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*If you’re not satisfied, call us within 90 days. We’ll pick up, reprocess your equipment, and give you a full refund—excluding your original ground shipping charges. Express shipping will not be reimbursed. This offer valid only when purchased directly from Parkell, Inc. Note: Certain categories are non-refundable. Please call for detail. (10/12)

**The 90-day warranty covers the unit and all inserts. Handpiece, tubes, and support cables are not covered by this warranty.

Special offer valid only when product is purchased directly from Parkell, Inc. 