

A fantastic product

Charlotte Curran explains why she finds **PerioChip** a first choice adjunct when treating patients with periodontal disease

Successfully treating periodontal disease can be challenging, but PerioChip® can help to fight this devastating condition.

After root surface debridement, many patients require ongoing maintenance therapy to suppress the growth of perio-pathogenic bacteria and prevent infection. PerioChip® is a unique little insert, specifically designed to treat periodontal pockets of 5mm or greater and offers an effective, antibiotic free answer.

PerioChip® does not require refrigeration and is easy to place just using a pair of tweezers. It is gelatine based and its biodegradable composition means that it dissolves naturally, so patients do not have to return to the surgery for removal.

After placement, gradual release of the active ingredient, chlorhexidine digluconate, enables PerioChip® to eliminate 99% of perio-pathogenic bacteria over the first seven to 10 days and then continue to suppress the growth of microflora for up to 11 weeks. This reliable and convenient maintenance method can really help patients and enhance clinical results over root surface debridement alone.

Periodontal programmes

Charlotte Curran is a dually qualified dental hygienist and therapist at Spring Grove Clinic in Glasgow. She is committed to the non-invasive treatment and preventative maintenance of oral disease and here she explains why PerioChip® is a first choice adjunct for her in treating patients with periodontal disease: 'I have been using PerioChip® for a few years now, it is a fantastic product and we use it widely at Spring Grove Clinic. It is quick and easy to place using just a pair of tweezers and I find it a very handy adjunct to have in my treatment room. It's extremely versatile for many periodontal cases and my patients are very grateful for the simplicity.

'I would estimate that I place around 10 and 15 inserts each month as part of periodontal treatment programmes. My patients are well educated in their oral health status

and are properly informed about which treatments I am able to offer. Initially, I carry out a full periodontal assessment, record probing and pocket depths and formulate a treatment plan.

'Appointments for root surface debridement are arranged and the patient is given comprehensive instructions and demonstrations in how to maintain optimum oral hygiene levels. I follow this with a review six weeks later to see if any healing has occurred and if pocket depths of at least 5mm are observed, active periodontal treatment using PerioChip® is implemented.

'For most patients I organise treatment with the placement of three PerioChip® inserts over three months for a total of nine months, in accordance with placement guidelines. Of course, I routinely review my periodontal patients to ensure treatment is progressing successfully but I find that this approach works very well to reduce periodontal pockets.

'Many of my patients have said that before treatment they know and feel that something is not right. However, when maintenance therapy using PerioChip® begins they can really feel the difference. The reduction in pocket depth after just one application is fantastic, which is difficult to achieve with root surface debridement alone. I usually see an improvement at each visit and with optimum conditions, I have seen a reduction of 2-4mm in pocket depths after just three months. It is reliable and effective and this is why PerioChip® is my choice for treating periodontal disease.

'PerioChip® allows my patients to brush their teeth and clean interdentally as normal. I only put forward patients with optimum oral health and good home regimes for treatment as it allows them to benefit from an effective treatment solution without reaching out for further procedures such as DNA testing and topical antimicrobials or antibiotics.

'I would strongly recommend PerioChip® to other practitioners because it really helps with stubborn pockets and has become a staple in my armoury against



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periodontal disease. It means that I do not have to constantly re-instrument the area possibly causing more damage and it really helps to reduce pocket depths and allow the periodontium to heal.'

Targeted maintenance

Many practitioners comment that they need all the help they can get to treat periodontal disease. It takes hard work to reduce pocket depths and relying on root surface debridement alone is not always the best way forward. Charlotte has discovered that PerioChip® offers non-invasive but reliable targeted maintenance therapy, which significantly helps her to treat persistent periodontal pockets efficiently and without the use of antibiotics.

You too can discover more about this innovative product by visiting the PerioChip® website at www.periochip.com where you can access further information as well as relevant research topics and case studies. The team at PerioChip® are on hand to answer your questions and would be happy to arrange an informative demonstration at your practice, so why not contact them now? **D**

References

Jeffcoat M K et al. Adjunctive use of a subgingival controlled-release chlorhexidine chip. *J Periodontol* 1998; **69** (9): 989 – 997. <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/9776027>. [Accessed 11th January 2016.] http://www.old.health.gov.au/units/pharmacy/trufot/alonim/PerioChip_dr_1337488974840.pdf [Accessed 11th January 2016.]



Charlotte Curran is dental hygienist and therapist at Berkley Clinic and Spring Grove Clinic, Glasgow.

PERIOCHIP® IS AVAILABLE exclusively from Dexcel Dental, to order or for further information call 0800 013 2333 or email team@periochip.co.uk.