## **EDITORIAL**

The field of dentistry is constantly evolving and changing to best suit patient needs. Here are just a few of the different technologies that dental surgeon can use to provide world-class service to their patients:

VELscope is a special type of light that a dentist can use to detect any abnormalities. This new form of technology is effectively used to detect early forms of cancer or disease during an oral cancer screening.

Digital X-rays are faster and contain less radiation than traditional Xrays. When a patient has a digital X-ray done, the image appears on the computer in a matter of seconds. Your dentist can then zoom into the image to better assess and educate the patient regarding their oral health. Digital X-rays are less harmful for patients as they contain up to 90% less radiation compared to traditional X-rays.

Invisalign are clear, practically invisible braces that can gently straighten your teeth. They provide an effective and comfortable way to straighten your smile without the inconvenience of wearing heavy, metal braces. Invisalign braces are easy to take out for cleaning and don't require a rest riction on what type of foods to eat. They get the job done in less time with less hassle.

Lasers are used to improve efficiency and eliminate discomfort in a number of dental procedures, including filling cavities, reducing tooth sensitivity, getting rid of tumors, and whitening. Laser dentistry is fast, pain less, and can effectively eliminate any form of bacteria during the procedure to avoid any further complications or problems.

Dental implants are screw-replacements for the root portion of missing teeth. Implants are used to restore healthy smiles when patients have missing teeth. Implants are effective because they can replace missing teeth, while still giving the patient the feel and look of a natural tooth.

HealOzone is a fast, easy and pain less way to eliminate tooth decay. HealOzone is effective because it contains ozone (03), which is a common, natural gas that effectively kills bacteria and fungus is a great tool to detect and get rid of any early signs of tooth decay before it progresses to a more advanced stage.

Diagnodent is a new, state of the art device that dentists use to detect cavities that are hiding in place regular x-rays can't find. It ensures that your mouth has been thoroughly checked for early signs of cavities to avoid you having to spend more in the future if the cavities progress and expand.

The intraoral camera is a tool that dentists use to gain precise and well-defined pictures of hard to see places within a patient's mouth. The camera also allows dentist to show these images to patients while assessing and educating the patient's needs. This new form of technology allows dentist to conduct a thorough checkup of your mouth and better assess their patient's oral care needs.

Zoom! Whitening is a new, state of the art whitening treatment that gives our patients fast and easy results. In just one appointment, Zoom! Whiten ing can make a significant change in a person's smile and can make their teeth up to eight shades whiter.

Nitrous Oxide and (Intravenous) IV Sedation-Nitrous oxide, also known as laughing gas, can calm a patient down to a point that they are relaxed but can still interact with their dentist. On the other hand, IV sedation sedates a patient so that they are unaware of what happened during their dental session yet is awake for the procedure. This is usually recommended for patients who are fearful of going to the dentist or for procedures that are painful such as wisdom teeth extraction.

By using new and advancing technology in the dental practices, one can make the visit of the patient comfortable and efficient.

AHMAD IQBAL

PROFESSOR EMERITUS KHYBER MEDICAL UNIVERSITY

Dr Ahmad Iqbal Editor-in-Chief Pakistan Oral & Dental Journal 19, Street 63, F–7/3 Islamabad – Pakistan Tel: 92-051-2611138 / 2611187

E-mail: driqbal7@gmail.com Website: www.podj.com.pk