There is nothing to fear but fear itself: Don’t wait to invest in E4D

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Dentistry continues to evolve with technological advancements. While it’s always been my mission and that of my practice to remain current with advances in dentistry, the idea of investing in new technology can be frightening and overwhelming.

Fortunately, the ultimate goal of providing patients with the most effective treatments available encourages dentists to overcome these fears. This was the case when I evaluated the E4D Dental System™ (D4D Technologies) chairside CAD/CAM technology.

Having experienced the clinical results of earlier generations of chairside CAD/CAM systems and concluding that the anatomy was not a good fit for my practice at the time, I was cautious about investing in more recent offerings. My dedication to dental excellence, however, encouraged me to continue looking for ways to better serve my patients, and E4D was the answer.

The fact that respected dental manufacturers, including 3M ESPE, Ivoclar Vivadent and Henry Schein were directly involved with the E4D Dentist System, increased my confidence in the pioneering company behind it and encouraged me to take a closer look. My interest was further piqued with the exceptional anatomy achieved by the system, which was more suited to my needs than earlier generations of chairside systems.

Couple that with the outstanding library of anatomical forms developed by Lee Culp, CDT, and the system’s ability to scan an impression rather than being limited to internal scanning of the mouth, and I was sold. For cases where dental professionals are unable to scan in the mouth, the ability to scan an impression is incredibly beneficial.

However, my initial concerns were: Would I see a return on my investment? Would it lower my lab
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costs and overhead? Would I alienate the ceramist with whom I’ve been working for years? When I finally invested in the E4D Dentist System, it quickly became apparent that my initial concerns were of no concern at all.

The return on your time and investment begins with the educational factor. Before installing the system, D4D requires a training session. It’s a first-class educational experience that allowed me and my staff to get up-and-running right away.

We performed our first crown procedure the day after the system was installed in our office. We started with full-crown single units and were soon performing onlays and two adjacent units in one visit.

With D4D, you are never alone with your system because the online support is awesome. If you have trouble with a design, support staff talk you through it or take over for you with D4D’s real-time, interactive Support On Site (S.O.S.).

After the first month, we essentially were running independently. Knowing that D4D representatives are always there if, and when, you need them gives you assurance and confidence. And it doesn’t end there. D4D offers numerous advanced courses as well, of which we’ve taken several, to help rev-up use of the system and our return on investment.

The impact of E4D technology on our practice has far exceeded my expectations. Investing in E4D resulted in faster patient turnaround, lower laboratory costs and lower overhead. The fact that E4D technology allows us to perform a complete crown procedure in one visit “wows” patients, who greatly appreciate the technology because it saves them time and makes their lives easier.

They also notice the pride and excitement it brings to the practice, and they’re confident that their dental family cares enough about their health and well-being to invest in this advanced technology. Because people always hope for a painless and easy dental procedure, they tell their family and friends, so our practice continues to grow. For practices performing restorative dentistry, E4D is the way to go.

**Conclusion**

After experiencing E4D technology, I’ve come to view it as a necessity for future growth. As there are more and more skilled ceramists retiring than there are replacing them in the workforce, E4D chairside technology will be extremely beneficial in the future for enabling dentists to design and mill their own restorations when needed.

On the other hand, more laboratories are investing in digital technology as well. Those of us who work closely with a ceramist can continue to do so, and for me, that is also a major plus.

I’ve never been so satisfied with an investment or so glad that I didn’t allow my fears to hold me back from embracing E4D technology. E4D brings speed and efficiency to your practice. Whether veneers, quadrant dentistry or implant restorations, E4D makes it easy to design, fabricate and deliver predictable and long-lasting restorations.

Charles Fischer, DDS, has been engaged in private practice in Greenwood Village, Co., for 33 years. His practice is focused on adult restorative dentistry and occlusion. He is a graduate of the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center and has dedicated his pursuits to continuing his professional dental education. He has been active in organizing and teaching seminars in occlusion and restorative dentistry. You may contact Fischer atfischerdds@aol.com.