All Planmeca’s CBCT units support three different types of 3-D imaging, as well as extraoral bitewing, cephalometric and digital panoramic imaging. This flexibility to switch between 2-D and 3-D allows clinicians to optimise their imaging and select the techniques that work best with each case. With proprietary features for imaging with ultra-low radiation doses and patient movement correction also available, Planmeca provides a completely unique dental imaging experience.

The Planmeca Ultra Low Dose protocol is the best method for acquiring CBCT images at low radiation doses, according to the company. It can be used with all voxel sizes and in all imaging modes and allows clinicians to gather more information than from standard 2-D panoramic images at an equivalent or even lower dose. All this is possible without a statistical reduction in image quality.¹

Whereas Planmeca Ultra Low Dose protects patients from unnecessarily high doses, the new Planmeca CALM imaging protocol helps avoid retakes by compensating for movement. According to studies,² patient movement may occur in up to 40% of cases, meaning that image quality is not optimal in a significant portion of CBCT scans. Planmeca CALM corrects artefacts caused by movement, resulting in sharper final images. The algorithm can be applied before the image is captured, as well as after the scan has been completed.

When purchasing a new CBCT unit, clinicians should ensure they request all the necessary information on the product. This would include accurate information on patient radiation doses and comparison of the differences in image quality between standard and low-dose images, as well as images with and without artefact correction. Making the right choice will lead to improved diagnostics, saved time, reduced costs and lower radiation exposure for patients.

References
1. Ludlow JB, Koivisto J. Dosimetry of orthodontic diagnostic FOVs using low dose CBCT protocol. Poster session presented at: 93rd General Session & Exhibition of the International Association for Dental Research; 2015 Mar 11–14; Boston, MA.
Treat root canals easily and efficiently. Through its “Peace of mind included—the Endo-System” campaign, VDW supports this claim by presenting its approach with its optimal interplay of products and services. With the VDW Endo-System, dentists and patients can benefit from safety in use and long-term treatment success—even in the most challenging medical situations.

Everything from a single source: Holistic system with flexibility
The VDW Endo-System is supported by almost 150 years of experience in endodontics and is a holistic system with three interacting components:

- innovative products for every treatment step,
- comprehensive services that are the ideal complement for the VDW product range,
- a diverse and demanding education programme.

VDW thus covers the entire endodontic treatment process and offers dentists a high degree of flexibility with their treatment styles.

Innovative products for every treatment step
The Endo-System by VDW includes products for all four treatment steps—from safe preparation of the root canal and thorough irrigation to wall-adapted obturation of the root canal followed by post-endodontic care. Dentists can select the right product for every step of treatment from the product range offered by VDW.

Time can be saved in preparation of the root canal by using only one instrument with reciprocating file systems such as RECIPROC blue or RECIPROC. Dentists can prepare root canals with minimum risk of file fracture by combining the file systems with VDW drives such as VDW.CONNECT Drive or VDW.GOLD RECIPROC. The apex locator integrated and activated with the VDW.GOLD RECIPROC stops the preparation process automatically when reaching the apex. When irrigating and disinfecting the prepared root canal, the EDDY sonic powered irrigation tip allows safe and effective cleaning of the complete root canal system, even in anatomically complex root canal structures. This careful irrigation of the root canal system is a decisive element in the success of the treatment and increases the probability of successful obturation of the root canal. The GUTTAFUSION carrier system—a combination of warm obturation and convenient single-cone technology—enables dentists to obturate the three-dimensional root canal structures homogeneously and with wall adaption into all isthmi and ramifications, thus minimising the risk of recontamination. If posts are required as part of post-endodontic care, DT quartz fibre posts can be used. The Double Taper design of DT Posts helps to preserve more dentine because the shape of the cones corresponds optimally to the morphology of the prepared root canal.

Comprehensive VDW services complement the products
Comprehensive services and consultation complement the VDW product range. From the start, the dentist receives the support of an experienced customer service representative with expert technical experience. Furthermore, the qualified customer service representative is available to answer all questions about VDW products and how to use them and to guarantee that all information and consultations meet the requirements of the customer. VDW also offers maintenance and repairs for all current and many older-generation devices.

Diverse range of education offerings for endodontics
Dentists can benefit from VDW’s almost 150 years of experience in endodontics through its diverse and demanding education programme. Participants in the more than 700 courses held every year all over the world are offered not only theoretical knowledge, but also practical sessions on how to best work with VDW products in their practices. VDW organises courses at its training centre in Munich in Germany, which is equipped with the latest technology, and at external training centres. In addition, dentists can attend hands-on sessions at congresses and trade fairs taking place all over the world. The VDW education programme also includes an international network of experts and cooperation with more than 70 universities worldwide.

Endodontics without compromise: Endo, easy, efficient
Long-term treatment success in endodontics—and thus satisfied patients over the long-term—depends on the optimal interaction of all components of the process. The VDW Endo-System offers a complete set of different products and services from a single source. This is how VDW makes the demanding discipline of endodontics as easy and efficient as possible for dentists. With the VDW Endo-System, dentists can perform even complex endodontic procedures successfully and economically—with peace of mind included.

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