Faculty of Dentistry, Oral & Craniofacial Sciences at King's College London: Celebrating rich histories and legacies

By King’s College London

In 1998, the London hospital dental schools at the Royal, Guy’s, St Thomas’ and King’s merged with the university of King’s College London, uniting their rich histories and legacies to lead the way in dental education and oral & craniofacial research.

The Faculty of Dentistry, Oral & Craniofacial Sciences at King’s College London celebrated the 20-year anniversary of this merger in November with a party in London’s Science Gallery, a commemorative video, and the launch of an Inaugural Lecture Series.

Professor Jenny Gallagher, Dean for International Affairs and Newland-Pedley Professor of Oral Health Strategy at King’s College London, gave the first Inaugural Lecture with a fascinating account of the life and times of Frederick Newland-Pedley, and his tremendous legacy in terms of education, research and patient care.

Professor Gallagher is an honorary consultant in Dental Public Health with King’s Health Partners and, externally with Public Health England, working to link research, education, policy and practice.

Professor Gallagher’s research takes a population health perspective to serving the oral health needs of society, particularly vulnerable groups. She has contributed to national and international working groups and is a past President of British Association for the Study of Community Dentistry, the Odontology Section of the Royal Society of Medicine and Co-President of European Association for Dental Public Health. She is involved in a range of global health initiatives including working with the World Health Organization. In 2015 Professor Gallagher received an MBE for services to oral health.

Watch the 20th anniversary commemorative video here: https://bit.ly/2ANyjdo

Whose gnashers? The form and function of mammalian teeth

By King’s College London

Teeth are key to the survival of mammals, and knowledge of tooth form and function is essential in mammalian biology.

Dr Barry Berkovitz, King’s College London, and Dr Peter Shellis, University of Bern, have published a new book ‘The Teeth of Mammalian Vertebrates’ exploring the teeth of all mammals based on material gathered from global museums and researchers, and drawing on the authors’ knowledge acquired over 40 years of teaching and research experience in dental anatomy. There has recently been a resurgence of interest in several aspects of comparative dental anatomy such as function, the development of individual teeth and their arrangement. Classically, teeth clearly exemplify the relationship between form and function, and mammalian dentitions provide an array of examples. The book contains over 700 high-quality photographs, x-rays, CT scans and histological images, including from the Royal College of Surgeons archives, and explains how the structure and properties of dental tissues support tooth function.

To celebrate the publication of ‘The Teeth of Mammalian Vertebrates’, King’s College London has created a photo quiz. Take the quiz at https://bit.ly/2Ft60yn and see how many you can identify. ‘The Teeth of Mammalian Vertebrates’ was co-authored by Dr Barry Berkovitz, Emeritus Reader in Dental Anatomy, King’s College London, and Dr Peter Shellis, Department of Preventive, Restorative and Paediatric Dentistry, University of Bern, and can be purchased from Elsevier.
Bluephase G4: Ivoclar Vivadent has developed the first ever intelligent Bluephase

Stylish, reliable and clever: that’s Bluephase G4 – the first Bluephase curing light featuring an automated assistance system. For even better results.

By Ivoclar Vivadent AG

Sound materials and reliable equipment are indispensable for achieving successful direct and indirect restorations. Here is something that many are not aware of, though: the precision with which the light-curing process is performed has also a substantial effect on the durability of composite restorations. This is where the Bluephase G4 – the latest curing light from Ivoclar Vivadent - comes in. The fourth generation of the Bluephase family does not only look stylish but it also offers a new and uniquely user-friendly feature: Polyvision technology.

Vibration alerts users to application error

Polyvision technology enables the Bluephase G4 to detect if the handpiece is moved during the exposure process and if the restoration can no longer be cured reliably. If this happens, the light emits a vibration alert to inform the operator of the error and, if necessary, automatically extends the exposure time by 10 per cent. If the handpiece moves too much – for example, the light guide slips out of the oral cavity - the light automatically switches off so that the curing procedure can be repeated correctly. The advantages for the operator are: easy handling, discreet assistance, reliable curing results and satisfied patients.

A curing light that communicates with the operator

With its automated assistance system, the Bluephase G4 represents a whole new generation of curing lights that can do both: cure reliably and communicate with their operators. The curing light offers a light output of 1200 mW/cm², polywave LED technology in a broadband spectrum of 385 to 515 nm and a 10-mm wide light guide with a homogeneous beam profile. These features allow an exceptionally efficient application to achieve high-quality results in very short times.

Bluephase is a registered trademark of Ivoclar Vivadent AG.

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