Against the Clock
What can help you stay focused on diagnosing and delivering the best dentistry? The answer is maximizing your schedule. Although there are no quick fixes, you can learn the best strategies to help you make the most of every day. » page 10

New Section!
With the cooperation of Dental Protection, a non-profit provider of dental indemnity and risk management, DT readers can now learn more about this exciting risk management feature that is being launched this edition of Dental Tribune.

What Is Risk Management?
Most simply it can be defined as the identification and containment of anything harmful in a system or process. This is exactly the sort of strategy that is regularly used in industry, but which is equally valid in healthcare. When it is applied to dentistry, it can help to create more predictable treatment outcomes and also increased patient safety. In the process, the dental team will experience increased levels of satisfaction and far less complaints.

Dental Protection
This UK company operates in 70 countries worldwide to protect the professional reputation and integrity of dentists and other members of the dental team by supporting them with the financial cost of any complaints and claims brought against them. This is made possible by a fund of over 1 billion US dollars that is held in trust for membership.

Dental Tribune International
By Daniel Zimmermann
Licorice has been an important herb in Chinese medicine for centuries and is now being rediscovered by Western medicine as a rich source of potentially beneficial compounds. In addition to being used as flavoring and sweetening agents in candy, beverages, and other products contains at least two compounds that appear to be potent inhibitors of Streptococcus mutans, a major cause of dental caries. Their study appeared in the Feb. 24 print version of the Journal of Natural Products, a monthly peer-reviewed journal publication of the American Chemical Society and the American Society of Pharmacognosy.
Clinical setting, you need to involve first generation scanners gave slice-breaking images and lower radiation exposure. However, it is still room for improvements; how to read and be designed to be shared with other members of the dental team. They have already proved extremely popular with dentists and hygienists who are members of Dental Protection. Although you can only obtain indemnity from the company if you work in a country where English law is the basis of the legal system, you can still benefit from their excellent risk management program.

The researchers report, “The future in orthodontic imaging seems exciting as we discover new frontiers, and as the paradigm in dentistry shifts from landmarks, lines, distances and angles to surfaces, areas and volumes.” They also added that “Orthodontists are beginning to appreciate the advantages that the third dimension gives to clinical diagnosis, treatment planning and patient education.”

**What’s in the market for 3-D dental imaging?**

Dentist report on new computerized tomography systems

Cone beam computed tomography (CBCT) increasingly becomes the newest technology for orthodontists to use in diagnosing complicated oral health problems.

Reporting on four new CBCT systems in the December issue of the Journal of Orthodontics are: J. Martin Palomo and Mark Hans from the Department of Orthodontics at the University of Kau and S. Richmond from the Dental Protection recently published a modified way of working to reduce the risk.

Risk containment

Where risks are identified, find a modified way of working to reduce the risk.

The new 3-D images capture pictures of hard tissues and most soft tissues components, except the color texture of the skin’s surface, enabling orthodontists to detect higher incidences of oral abnormalities such as oral cysts and lesions.

The improved images allow for better radiograph analysis and management of conditions related to deep acne and enlarged adenoids.

Images from the CBCT technology have additional applications in other specialties of dentistry such as placing new implants that are increasingly used in place of dentures, remedial efforts for TMJ and for reconstruction of cleft palates and lips.

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**What’s in the market for 3-D dental imaging?**

**Dental Protection**

Modular Training Dental Protection recently published a series of clinical modules, each one devoted to a different clinical topic and designed to help today’s dentists learn from the mistakes of the past. By identifying problems ahead of time and adopting a modified way of behaviour to reduce or eliminate the problem, every clinician can take control of their situation and reduce the chance of their own or her own risk. However, it is not something that the dentist can do in isolation. The philosophy should involve all the team members in the clinical environment.

Three Stages of Risk Management

Understanding risk

If you wish to manage risk in a clinical setting, you need to involve the whole dental team in the process of identifying where the risks might be. To ensure the dental team feels comfortable enough to analyze its existing way of working, it is important to focus on the systems and processes that are used rather than the people who engage with them. Staff training and motivation is best achieved when any suggestion of personal criticism is excluded.

Controlling risk

Where risks are identified, find a modified way of working to reduce the risk.

The American Dental Association and the British Orthodontic Society to use techniques that reduce exposure to radiation.

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**About Case Western Reserve University**

Case Western Reserve University is a leading research institution. Founded in 1826 and shaped by the unique merger of Case Institute of Technology and Western Reserve University, Case is distinguished by its strengths in education, research, service, and experiential learning. Located in Cleveland, Case offers nationally recognized programs in the Arts and Sciences, Dental Medicine, Engineering, Law, Management, Medicine, Nursing, and Social Work. [http://www.case.edu](http://www.case.edu)