New device lets patients rest from dental drill

A-dec Introduces Its Newest Family Member: A-dec 200™

Unhealthy lifestyles and heavy drinking are contributing to high rates of breast cancer in Britain, according to a new report.

Experts from the World Health Organisation (WHO) blame alcohol consumption and obesity levels for the number of cancer cases.

Overall, the UK is 22nd of the top ten countries and nations in the world to develop the disease in the UK (205.5) than in France (254.9), Italy (251.6) and Germany (245.7).

The highest rates are in Denmark (525.3), New Zealand (287.1) and Ireland (285.1). Denmark is also shown to be the cancer capital of the world (256.1) for all forms of the illness.

Experts believe some of the explanation for Danish data could be down to better diagnosis but noted high rates of smoking among Danish women.

Professor Martin Wiseman is medical and scientific adviser for the World Cancer Research Fund, which compiled the league tables based on WHO data. He said: “We know that people in high income countries are more likely to be overweight, to drink a lot of alcohol and to be inactive.”

“When you look at the list, it’s clear that the countries that do worse for these factors tend to be nearer the top. “The high incidence rates in the UK, Denmark and other high-income countries are not inevitable and lifestyle changes can make a real difference to people’s risk.”

New Point-of-entry A-dec 200 Offers No Compromise Performance and Real A-dec Value

A-dec, a global leader in dental equipment, introduces A-dec 200™, the newest in A-dec’s lineup of patient chairs and delivery systems, with input from dental professionals around the world to accommodate the wide range of practice styles found in global markets.

The space-saving chair-mounted delivery system includes a telescoping assistant’s arm and an oversized tray to hold everything the dental team needs. The new multi-axis light provides easy and precise positioning of illumination, and the cuspidor rotates conveniently to the patient when needed.

The chair, light and cuspidor functions are easily controlled from A-dec’s modern touchpad. Small and large and small pieces that will enjoy the open platform that leaves room to add or change ancillary devices for peak performance now, and in the future.

To learn more about A-dec 200, contact your local authorized A-dec dealer.

Booze And Obesity ‘Cause High Cancer Rate3

The World’s Dental Newspaper · Middle East & Africa Edition

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New device lets patients rest from dental drill

LONDON, UK/Leipzig, Germany: Noise-cancelling technology could soon be available in dental practices. Clinicians from the Kings College in London in the UK said to have invented a device that blocks out the shrill sound generated by modern dental air turbines a main cause for anxiety among dental patients.

Noise cancelling or Active Noise Reduction is already in use in headphones and to cancel out noise from engines inside road tunnels or airliners. It is blocking out sound through the emission of own-generated sound waves that cause interferences.

The new device, containing a microphone and a computer chip, was developed in regard to the high-pitched sound caused by air turbines in dental handpieces. According to the researchers, it can be easily plugged in between mobile music players and headphones.

They are now looking for investors to bring the device to the dental market.
New treatment helps beat depression

A grandmother who had a long battle with depression has become the first person in the world to benefit from life-changing neurosurgical treatment.

Sheila Cook, from Torquay in Devon, suffered from depression for more than a decade and attempted to take her life on more than one occasion. The 62-year-old is now beginning to enjoy life again after pioneering treatment, which accurately targets brains networks involved in depression, was offered to her in Bristol.

Mrs Cook - whose illness had stopped responding to conventional treatments - was offered deep brain stimulation (DBS) in the first trial in the world that stimulates two different brain networks that are involved in depression. Although DBS provided some temporary response, she relapsed and went on to be the first to have further advanced stereotactic neurosurgery, which was carried out in early 2010.

Mrs Cook said: “The effects were remarkable. Within a few weeks my life changed. I read books, did the housework, went for walks and, perhaps most importantly, got to know my family again.”

Leading the research is Dr Andrea Malizia, consultant senior lecturer in the School of Social and Community Medicine at the University of Bristol and Mr Nikunj Patel, senior clinical lecturer in the Department of Neurosurgery at North Bristol NHS Trust.

In February 2010, Mrs Cook was asked if she would trial a new form of treatment - Anterior Cingulotomy using implantable guide tubes (GTAC), which was developed in Frenchay Hospital, Bristol. Mrs Cook is the first patient to have received DBS and GTAC treatments. Dr Malizia said: “Mrs Cook has been the first patient in the world to have these two treatments. I’m very pleased to see the second treatment has worked well for her and has been maintained.”

Dental implants see fastest growth in Emerging Markets

NEW YORK, USA/LEIPZIG, Germany: Premium manufacturers are driving the market for dental implants and bone-craft substitutes in countries like China and India, according to iData Research. In a market report, the Canada-based consulting company has forecasted the market volume of both countries for dental implants to exceed US$400 million by the year 2017. Strong double digit growth rates were also predicted for Brazil, another potent global Emerging Market.

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Woman regains voice after rare larynx transplant

Complex and rare transplant operation restores women’s voice

Brenda Jensen, lost the ability to speak following surgery 11 years ago. Her voice box was damaged after she repeatedly ripped out a breathing tube whilst sedated. Since then she has been unable to smell or taste food and can only breathe with the help of a tracheostomy tube. An electronic hand held device that produces an artificial robot-like voice was her only way of speaking to others.

An international team of surgeons – which included Professor Martin Birchall from University College London – performed the complex surgery at the University of California Davis Medical Centre, US. More than two dozen surgeons, doctors, nurses and technicians were involved overall.

The 52 year-old woman spoke her first words just 13 days after the operation. She is now able to speak easily. Ms Jensen said: “This operation has restored my life. I feel so blessed to have been given this opportunity. It is a miracle. I’m talking, talking, talking, which just amazes my family and friends.”

The surgeons removed and replaced Ms. Jensen’s larynx (voicebox), thyroid gland and trachea (windpipe) with that from a donor who died in an accident. Surgeons had to work simultaneously on each side of the patient to reconnect the organ and various nerves, veins and arteries.

The new voice sounded hoarse after the operation, but has improved significantly since the transplant. Although the donor organ came from an accident victim, Ms. Jensen’s voice is her own and not that of the donor, the surgeons said.

Ms Jensen is now able to smell and taste food and is in the process of relearning to swallow. She hopes to soon be able to eat and drink normally again.

“We are absolutely delighted with the results of this extraordinary case,” said Professor Gregory Farwell, at UC Davis Medical Centre and lead surgeon for the transplant. “The larynx is an incredibly complex organ, with intricate nerves and muscles functioning to provide voice and allow breathing.

“Our success required that we assemble an exceptional, multi-disciplinary team, use the most recent advances in surgical and rehabilitation techniques, and find a patient who would relish the daunting challenges of undergoing the transplant and the work necessary to use her new voicebox.”

Dr John Williams, Head of Clinical Activities at the Wellcome Trust, which has supported Professor Birchall’s research in the past said: “This is a truly extraordinary achievement and a genuine breakthrough.

“Professor Birchall and colleagues have clearly transformed the life of their patient and their work offers much hope both for patients in need of similar procedures and indeed for research into transplantation and regenerative medicine in general.”