Helping busy hands keep healthy

Health and hygiene go hand in hand, according to Richard Musgrave of Schülke, who offers advice on preventing the spread of infection

The most important tool a dental practitioner possesses is his hands. Ultimately, all the technology and equipment in the world are useless if the hands operating it are not in prime condition.

As well as acting as a tool, your hands can also be a lethal weapon, especially when it comes to infection transmission in a surgical environment. The skin on the hands is the body’s first defence against infection from pathogens, as any cuts or lesions on the skin are easy sources of entry for bacteria and viruses, so good hygiene practices are crucial to reducing the risk of infection. Thoroughly washing hands, along with the use of gloves and alcohol rubs are the primary means employed by dental practitioners to maintain effective hand hygiene and prevent the spread of infection, however this can have a detrimental effect on the condition of the skin on the hands and arms.

A fine balance

Skin protection is an occupational hazard for dental practitioners and as special care must be taken to protect others from infection, so professionals are not allowing themselves open to long-term suffering and discomfort. A delicate balance is required to ensure that hands not only remain hygienic, but also that the dental professional does not suffer any ill effects.

Eczema

The skin on the hands is the body’s first defence against infection from pathogens, but it comes to infection transmission in a surgical environment. The skin on the hands is the body’s first defence against infection from pathogens, but it is important to remember, however, that staff responsible for sterilisation products as well as the acclaimed infection control training division, Richard is now responsible for the UK marketing team.

He attributes the successes of Schülke to the quality of its product and its dedication to providing the best possible support to the dental profession, both in the UK and beyond. This commitment is demonstrated through Schülke’s association with leading companies such as Dental Protection, for example. More information on infection control training is available from Schülke on 0114 254 3500 or at www.s4dental.com.

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