Dental technician

As New York Daily News reported, the US actor Charlie Sheen, best known for his role as Charlie Harper in the sitcom “Two and a Half Men” is being sued for sexual assault by a dental technician. The woman claims Sheen, under the influence of drugs, grabbed her breast and tried to tear off her bra at a dental office in Los Angeles. The actor attacked her during a dental appointment: The woman was trying to put on a mask for nitrous oxide on Sheen’s face when he grabbed her breast and pulled at her scrubs and bra strap. The dental technician also claims that Sheen was high on a combination of crack cocaine, Theradol and alcohol.

A representative of the actor, however, denied the accusations and said that Sheen had taken some pain medication prior to the appointment because he had suffered a shoulder injury, and suggested that this medication had apparently not mixed well with the nitrous oxide.

Sheen’s lawyer, Marty Singer, told the newspaper that the story was entirely unreal and that the lawsuit was only filed for opportunistic reasons. Sheen has been hospitalised several times for substance abuse. He has faced a number of charges for assault, felony and criminal mischief in the past.

BPA exposure may contribute to

Asthma development in children

In the past, bisphenol A (BPA), a endocrine-disrupting chemical that can also be found in dental composites and sealants, has been linked to a number of health conditions, including obesity, allergies and cancer. Now, researchers have found evidence that prenatal exposure to BPA is associated with diminished lung function and the development of persistent wheeze in children, which are indicators for asthma, one of the most common chronic childhood disorders.

In order to examine the effect of BPA on lung function and wheeze in children, researchers at the University of Maryland School of Medicine followed women through pregnancy and their children through age 5. In total, the study included 398 mother–infant dyads. They collected maternal urine samples at 16 and 26 weeks of pregnancy and maternal urine samples annually to assess BPA exposure.

According to the study, prenatal BPA exposure during early pregnancy was associated with diminished lung function, increased likelihood of wheeze, and a persistent wheeze phenotype in young children.

According to estimates by the Centres for Disease Control and Prevention, about 7 million children under the age of 18 are affected. Although secondhand smoke and air pollution have been identified as factors for the development of asthma in children, the reasons for increasing rates of the disease in the past decades are still poorly understood by scientists. The present study thus provides new evidence that BPA may contribute to this development.

On October 1, 2014, Danaher Corporation published the public tender offer for all publicly held registered shares of Nobel Biocare Holding AG with a par value of CHF 0.40 each, as announced on September 15, 2014. The offer price is CHF 17.10 in cash per registered share.

On September 14, 2014, Nobel Biocare’s Board of Directors unanimously decided (with one member not participating) to recommend that Nobel Biocare’s shareholders accept the offer of Danaher. The Board of Directors of Nobel Biocare reviewed the offer in detail and determined that the all-cash offer is in the best interests of Nobel Biocare, its shareholders, employees, customers and suppliers. The report of the Board of Directors regarding the offer has been published in the offer prospectus of Danaher today. N+1 Swiss Capital AG provided a fairness opinion for Nobel Biocare’s Board of Directors in which it confirmed that the offer price of CHF 17.10 in cash per registered share is fair and appropriate from a financial point of view.

On September 29, 2014, the Swiss Takeover Board decided that the offer of Danaher is compliant with the statutory provisions relating to public tender offers. Danaher Corporation (NYSE: DHR) is a global science and technology innovator committed to helping its customers solve complex challenges and improving quality of life around the world. Its family of world class brands have unparalleled leadership positions in some of the most demanding and attractive industries, including healthcare, environmental and communications. The company’s globally diverse team of 66,000 associates is united by a common culture and operating system, the Danaher Business System. In 2013, Danaher generated $19.1 billion in revenue and its market capitalization exceeded $50 billion.
Neodent Spain and Neodent Portugal
Join forces as Instradent

In October, Neodent, the leading South American dental implant company, announced that the subsidiaries in Spain and Portugal will join forces on January 1, 2015, to serve customers as Instradent Iberia SL.

The main objectives of the combination are to strengthen the Neodent brand in Iberia, to increase efficiencies between the countries and the Brazilian headquarters, and to deliver outstanding service to customers. Instradent Iberia will maintain its Spanish office in Madrid and will open a new office for Portugal in Lagoas Park/ Porto Salvo.

Matthias Schupp, Executive Vice President Neodent, noted: “Neodent products have grown considerably in both countries. By combining the two subsidiaries, we will become even stronger, strengthening our professional back office and delivering first class service to customers.”

Dr Sandro Matter, Executive Vice President Instradent, stated: “In addition to offering outstanding product quality, Instradent’s goal is to make life easier for customers.”

Although the two entities will operate separately for the remainder of this year, Mr Jorge Herrera, Neodent Director in Spain, will also lead the Sales and Marketing activities for Portugal from October 1, 2014.

Japanese researchers discover
New antiseptic agent to fight periodontitis

In in-vitro experiments, researchers at Tokyo Medical and Dental University and the National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology in Japan tested the effectiveness of NBW3 against Porphyromonas gingivalis and Aggregatibacter actinomycetemcomitans. They found that the levels of both bacteria dropped to below the lower limit of detection after only 30 seconds of exposure. In addition, they observed that NBW3 had no significant impact on human oral tissue.

Conventional antibiotic therapies for treating periodontitis hold the risk of several side-effects, such as the development of bacterial resistance and adverse host reactions.

However, NBW3 is produced from ozone, which has strong antimicrobial activity against bacteria, fungi and viruses, and thus does not induce antimicrobial resistance. Ozonated water usually retains its potency for only a short period, but NBW3, which the researchers produced, using a patented technique, retains its oxidation ability for more than six months. This stability allows for the bottling and use of NBW3 as a disinfectant. Although the results of the present study are promising, these in vitro models cannot be directly translated into clinical situations, in which NBW3’s potency may be reduced by dental patients’ saliva. Therefore, further research is needed.

DENTSPLY Implants
Expands into new markets

DENTSPLY Implants expands into new markets and recently opened the first office in Beijing, China, a market where ANKYLOS and XIVE implant lines have been present and successful since 1998. In conjunction with the opening, the ASTRA TECH Implant System was introduced to the Chinese market.

From the perspectives of dentists per capita and dental implant penetration, China’s dental industry is still relatively immature. But with the growing dental market size, especially the surge of high-end businesses such as dental implants, coupled with the consumption upgrading and the increasing awareness over dental health, China’s dental industry is projected to maintain rapid growth.

“`We are looking forward to this exciting development and potential growth in the very dynamic Chinese market,” says Lars Henrikson, Group President DENTSPLY Implants.

However, China is not the only market in Asia where the company expands its business. “We are also preparing for the expansion of ATLANTIS abutments into several new markets, something I know many customers are waiting for. One of those new markets is Japan, where our abutments will be launched later this year,” continues Lars Henrikson.