

Q&A

with Dr Robert Aslan



AD: You've had the digital X ray and microscope what are your impressions?

Dr Aslan: The visibility and the clarity of the working field using the microscope is undeniably first class. I can now work to a higher standard simply because I can see more detail.

The digital x-rays, the OPG and the surgery digital xray system makes life easy because of the instantaneous nature of these tools. The picture to me is as clear and in some instances more clear than the analogue predecessors. The added aid of magnification provided by the software makes diagnosis that little bit easier.

AD: Was it a big step for you to change to digital?

Dr Aslan: We decided to take the whole surgery digital, this included notes, letters forms as well as the x-ray systems simultaneously. Of course that meant a little time and effort in preparation and training, but the rewards are there, we will be freeing space and the whole surgery shows a lot less clutter.

AD: Is the equipment easy to use?

Dr Aslan: Yes it is, we had xrays that looked good and I was well into the use of the microscope well before any formal training.

AD: What can you do now that you couldn't do previously?

Dr Aslan: With the digital xray systems I can spot diagnose and commence treatment immediately. This makes for improved efficiency.

AD: Is there any response from the patients?

Dr Aslan: There is the "wow" factor, this tends to bring referrals to the practice. The patients also benefit from the easy visualization of their needs, this is of paramount importance in gaining acceptance of your treatment plans. The patients love that they can now visualize their problem, the microscope with attached digital cam and video serves this purpose, and those problems are there in front of them on the big screen.

AD: Technology can be temperamental. Have you had any problems and how do you gear up for possible faults?

Dr Aslan: Microscopes are a not an issue, probably a spare globe is all that is required. The digital xray system had some teething problems at first but it that was mainly owing to computing, the actual systems are great they do the job. The back-up is of course revert to analogue films, this hasn't happened yet.

AD: What about the cost and repayment?

Dr Aslan: The cost of an item has to be worked out on several planes. You can not try and justify buying something that purely on return on investment. Although the usage of the OPG has paid more than the monthly payments including for the microscope, added value of immediate starts have to be factored in. For example a surgical removal of a tooth, an immediate RCT, if you do ortho, a patient is locked in immediately because you can do OPG, Lat Ceph take photos, a lot of times a patient may lose the enthusiasm that you worked hard to instill for a beneficial treatment because they go home and get lazy. ♦

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