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APPLICATION OF LASER IN PROSTHODONTICS

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Background: The introduction of laser in dentistry, in the 1960s, by Miaman, led to a continuous research in the various applications of lasers in dental practice particularly in prosthodontics. Nowadays, the use of laser in prosthodontics has replaced many conventional surgical and technical procedures and is about to replace the dental handpiece. The aim of this review is to provide a complete understanding of the fundamentals of lasers and their applications in the various disciplines of prosthodontics. Laser in dentistry become a must in dental clinic for some specific patients, and a need for the others, what can't not be solved by using the traditional treatment, laser could be a good choice to resolve it. Laser use in dentistry has expanded and improved some treatment options for clinicians who have adopted this technology

Objective: The objective of this lecture is to provide an overview

on: the fundamentals of laser science; what are the common components of all lasers devices; laser wavelengths available in dentistry, and the best laser to select in prosthodontics treatment; the applications of lasers in the various branches of prosthodontics; the advantage of using laser over the traditional treatment and; clinical cases presentation.

Methodology: A recent review about the use of lasers in dentistry was conducted.

Results: Dentistry today is evolving tremendously and the use of lasers in dentistry is a double edged sword: if it is properly used, laser can be an initial and/or additional tool in our daily practice, whereas if it is misused it can lead to catastrophic results.

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