great as most standard rotary systems. The flexibility of Waveone Gold Primary is 80% greater than Waveone Primary.

There are now 4 tip sizes in the Waveone Gold series - Small #20.07; Primary #25.07; Medium #35.06, and Large #45.05, and in a choice of three lengths (21, 25 and 31mm). Variable reducing tapers ensures that the final shape of the prepared canal is more conservative fulfilling the requirements of minimally invasive endodontics aiming to remove less of the existing tooth structure in order to preserve the integrity of the natural tooth. The final shape is optimal for efficient irrigation and obturation. Increased flexibility especially in the larger sizes enables the negotiation of a wider range of canal morphologies and curvatures.

Waveone Gold has a new parallelogram cross-section optimised to improve cutting efficiency. Alternating cutting edges have either one or two point contacts depending on location along the file, which minimises the "screwing" effect. Users will appreciate the smooth reciprocating movement and will not feel the need to push on the file, which in either rotary or reciprocation motion is also one

of the leading causes of file separation. These aspects of file design have reduced an already shortened shaping time by an additional 20% providing additional opportunities to enhance irrigation.

There are new directions for use with Waveone Gold. Once a smooth reproducible glide path is established and enlarged preferably with DENTSPLY Proglider, the Waveone Gold Primary file (25.07) is the first and in up to 80% of cases, the only file needed to shape the canal. The Waveone Gold Small is used to length when the Primary does not progress so easily and then the recommendation is to return to the Primary to complete the shaping. After the use of the Waveone Gold Primary gauging foramen diameter may indicate the need for a larger file and the shaping can be finished with either the Waveone Gold Medium or the Large.

The design team believe the enhancements made with Waveone Gold makes quality endodontics available to many more clinicians, giving them the confidence to take on cases considered too difficult in the past, reducing the risk of file separation and increasing patient safety. This new generation file system is

ideal for existing users of mechanical NiTi instruments and others keen to use them for the first time.

Shaping canals has just got easier.

For more information contact DENTSPLY on 1300 55 29 29 or visit dentsply.com.au/ waveonegold.

#### Reference:

Webber, Julian (2015): Shaping canals with confidence. Dentistry, p 74, May issue.

**Dr Julian Webber** was the first UK dentist to receive a Masters Degree in endodontics from a university in the USA. He received his BDS from Birmingham University in 1974 and his MSc and Certificate in Endodontics from Northwestern University Dental School, Chicago, USA in 1978. He has been a practicing endodontist in Central London since 1978 and opened the Harley Street Centre for Endodontics in October 2002.

Julian lectures extensively in the UK and has travelled abroad on many occasions to lecture to major world dental congresses and endodontic societies. Through his various workshops and hands on courses, he has helped to train many general dentists in the skills of modern endodontic technique. For further information of upcoming lectures, courses and hands on contact info@julianwebber.com

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# All **upsides** for upskilling your staff!



By Pam McKean, Director A.B. Dental Employment Agency

### Should you upskill your staff? Yes or no...

We all know how fast life passes by. You need to manage your practice, your staff, and keep up to date with your own ongoing education ... if you don't stop and look around once in a while, you could miss it. And you could miss out on a lot of business success and growth if you don't train your employees correctly.

In order to stay at the top of your game, your staff need to be skilled in all the latest techniques and kept up to date with the most recent legislation. News laws are on the horizon which will affect the dental industry. Are you and your staff

Upskilling saves cash. Not only that, but there are a numerous advantages for both you and your employees. It's a winwin situation for the whole team.

#### Why upskilling is valuable

Despite the costs that are involved, upskilling does have a large amount of value for practices that decide to provide these benefits to their employees. When considering the question of "should you be paying for your employees to upskill?" remember the two main benefits of deciding to upskill: improving your practice's productivity, and improving your employee engagement.

#### Use both on-site and external training methods

Using a combination of onsite training and external training methods can ensure that skills learnt offsite can be implemented and reinforced in the workplace. Given the nature of dentistry, and the practical application of the work, it's useful to have tailored programs that are specific to your practice in addition to keeping up with all the latest scientific and technological information in the marketplace.

#### Safety and supervision

Trained staff assist with creating a safer environment, lowering the risk of work place incidents, as their awareness of different situations increases. Skilled and motivated workers are also less likely to become involved in practice based litigation, as they are generally happy in their work and loyal to their team.

Another added advantage is that competent and skilled staff requires less supervision and management, leaving you to concentrate on your role instead of micromanaging your employees.

#### Upskilling and employee engagement

The most prominent benefit of upskilling is increasing your practice's productivity by improving your staff's capacity, potential, confidence and motivation.

Staff who feel valued and in turn are more efficient, are more likely to go the extra mile and less likely to leave. Employee engagement is critical for a productive, smoothly functioning practice.

So how exactly does upskilling help your practice improve its employee engagement? Primarily because it shows your team members that you value their performance and are invested in the work that they do for you. A willingness to invest in the skills of your employees shows that you are committed to them and are willing to help them do everything possible to get better at their job.

Upskilling your employees especially important because they can keep these skills with them, even if they eventually decide to leave your practice. Since your employees recognise this fact, they will understand that your decision to invest in their job skills is an investment in them, as well as in your practice. This fact will make them respond better to your training and be more loyal to your practice.

#### **Build your business**

Better training equates to greater productivity and increased time efficiency, which leads to higher long-term profits. This more than offsets the cost of the training. In this cut-throat business world companies need up-to-date skills and knowledge to remain competitive. By instigating training, development and upskilling, staff are kept industry competent and abreast of industry advancements.

Retaining talented staff should be a high priority, as you can be sure your competitors will jump at the chance of welcoming them onto the payroll. You can also reduce costs in some circumstances by completing more tasks in-house.

Upskilling may negate the need for recruitment, which can be costly. Not only that, but costs are reduced by improved productivity and increased efficiency.

So the next time you are wondering whether it is worthwhile sending your staff on the latest course, do yourself and them a favour and book them straight in. You will reap the rewards for a long time to come.

It's a win-win situation: by upskilling your staff, you're improving the skills of individuals while boosting the success of your bottom line.

Pam McKean is a Director of AB Dental Employment Agency. The company has been in operation for over 15 years. Over the last 10 years AB Dental has grown into one the country's leading recruitment agencies for the dental industry, servicing all sectors from government, corporate and private practice.

Currently, AB Dental services over 1,200 businesses with recruiting services including supply of temporary, contract and permanent employees. As professional recruiters, AB Dental can manage as much as little of the recruitment process as required, even if only providing advice.