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Adaptation of Airline Crew Resource Management to Principles of Dentistry

The aviation industry uses crew resource management (CRM) to address the human aspect of error. Dentistry can incorporate these concepts to reduce human error.

Health care systems have begun to focus on medical error. During the past 30 years, the airline industry has developed mitigation strategies that are being adapted for medicine. CRM involves the use of information, equipment, and people to increase safety by targeting early identification of errors.

To enhance safety, practitioners must implement forward-thinking strategies. Because human error is inevitable, threat and error manage-

ment (TEM) techniques are needed to help identify and trap error before it develops into unexpected outcomes. Risk analysis increases situational awareness (SA) of potential dental error. Efficiency increases with early error detection.

An example of a loss of SA can be seen in the 1972 crash of Eastern Airlines flight 401. Three experienced crew members on the flight deck diverted their attention while attempting to change a light bulb used to indicate the position of the landing gear. No one noticed that the autopilot was engaged in the wrong mode, and the airplane slowly descended and crashed into the Flor-

ida Everglades, killing 101 people.

In an effort to help professionals maintain

SA and practice TEM routinely, organizations have advocated the use of

continued on reverse

Dental Fun Fact

Did you know....

The most valuable tooth belonged to Sir Isaac Newton. In 1816 one of his teeth was sold in London for \$3,633 or in today's terms \$35,700. The tooth was set in a ring.

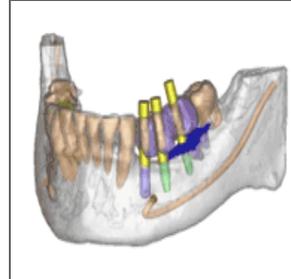
Guinness World Records 2002

News You Can Use



Our new addition to the office!

The Gendex CT Scan is a 3D Cone Beam scan that creates a three-dimensional image of a patient's head, providing a series of high resolution digital images of their maxillofacial area. The Cone Beam scan is the most thorough and accurate image available today. High-resolution, digitally-enhanced pictures provide many layers of information that can be separated to view every aspect of a patient's mouth, face and jaws. Cone Beam imaging converts a series of conventional low-dose x-rays into high resolution images by managing information through highly sophisticated software. The software creates a digital model of a patient's oral cavity that can be viewed on a monitor, rotating the image from an infinite selection of angles. Once the scan is captured in the computer, the software will calculate exact measurements of every element of the facial structure. The scan takes less than a minute and is painless. From a 360° scan of the jaw and mouth, these images will aid in choosing the most precise treatment plan for a patient.



safety checklists. A safety checklist is founded on the principle that human error is inevitable. It helps people focus on the tasks at hand, reflects the fact that people lose SA

over time and experience difficulty maintaining focus, and helps clinicians establish guidelines for care. Reading a checklist aloud allows for a standardized set of prescribed

and choreographed communications among team members that takes little time to perform.

For the suggested checklist, and the entire article, please see:

<http://jada.ada.org/content/141/8/1010.abstract>

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Dr. Brian Simpson
announces the ninth meeting of the

NANUET IMPLANT STUDY GROUP

speaker: Joseph R. Carpentieri, DDS

INTRODUCTION TO CAD/CAM DENTISTRY

Wednesday, November 9, 2011

Restaurant X 117 North Rte. 303 Congers, NY
Dinner: 6:30 Presentation: 7:00 — 9:00 pm

2 CE credits awarded by the Ninth District Dental Association
Cost: \$30.00

Please bring your cases and documentation
(photos, x-rays, models) for discussion.

To register, contact Theresa: 845-623-3497
or email her at theresag@drbriansimpson.com

"It's what you learn after you know it all that counts."

-Coach John Wooden