



## *All About Dental Lasers*

You're about to have your first experience with a new and exciting technology, LASERS. A million questions are probably going through your mind. Perhaps you've heard about dental lasers on T.V. or on the radio. Just in case you haven't had the opportunity to learn about lasers, I want to give you some basic information and maybe even allay some of your concerns regarding today's visit.

Dental lasers are designed to assist the dentist in the treatment of the gingival tissues (gums). Certain lasers have been approved by the Food and Drug Administration for the use on gum tissue only while others have been approved for use on the hard structures of teeth.

The laser we will be using today may look similar to one of the pictures to the right although there are a number of lasers available today. When you are seated in the operator, one of my dental assistants will give you a pair of safety glasses to wear, position the laser next to the dental chair, and place a sterile laser tip in the sterilized handpiece. We will then be ready to go. Unlike the dental drill, there is no whining sound to disturb your sleep or to make you grip the sides of the dental chair. According to most of our patients, this silent feature is definitely a big plus!



Dental lasers can be used for a variety of treatment procedures. Depending upon today's treatment needs, we may be using the laser for several minutes or possibly for only a brief moment. However, even those procedures that require only a short period of laser usage benefit from the many advantages of laser therapy. Bleeding is minimized, swelling is controlled and there is usually little if any postoperative discomfort. For maximum comfort, most of the procedures do, however, require a local anesthetic. This will be discussed with you prior to the beginning of the treatment session. If you have any questions, please let us know. Now sit back and enjoy your laser show.....



Sincerely,

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