"CompAngle" Composite Sculpturing Brushes

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Technology description

A researcher from the University of Iowa has developed a novel composite dental sculpturing brush called “CompAngle”. This invention is a brush for shaping resin composite before it hardens on the tooth. The brush has a handle that is able to withstand high temperature sterilization, and is also larger in diameter, making it easier to hold. One brush is attached at each end of the instrument, and is removable and disposable. The two ends are positioned at specific, unique angles, thus helping it to reach different areas of the mouth. The triangular attachment also allows the flat brush to be place on the instrument handle at three different angles, allowing access to all embrasure areas. There are three (3) sizes of tips, (1) small pointed, (2) medium pointed, and (3) flat. The brushes are also available in two (2) types of bristles, (1) sable for less viscous resin, and (2) nylon for more viscous resin.

Background Information

The most prevalent dental problem in the U.S. is cavities, and approximately 80% of adults have them. Resin is used to fill cavities, gaps between teeth, and to reshape teeth. Resin is placed on the tooth when it is soft, and eventually hardens to create a solid surface that blends in with the other teeth. Current instruments for shaping resin composite have small handles that make them difficult to hold for long periods of time. In addition, the angles of conventional instruments do not fit properly in some dental areas including (1) small, curved areas of teeth, (2) concave contours, and (3) lingual tooth surfaces. The current instruments are also costly to clean because they are unable to be sterilized at high temperatures, and low temperature sterilization is expensive.

Technology Summary

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Advantages

· Allows for sterilization at high temperatures
· Interchangeable brush tips and easy tip replacement
· 3 brush shapes for multiple resin shaping applications
· 2 types of bristles to specialize for each form of resin
· Easy to hold and manipulate

Institution

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