

# AMED dentistry meeting reveals useful new tool

Guy Levy, DDS Wednesday, February 26, 2014



In October, I had the good fortune to attend the [Academy of Microscope Enhanced Dentistry \(AMED\)](#) annual scientific meeting in Orlando. This is truly an international organization, with dentists present from every corner of the globe.

Because the common thread with all attendees is the use of operating microscopes in the practice of dentistry, there are both general dentists and dentists representing most dental specialties. A majority of the speakers are drawn from the AMED membership, which makes this meeting particularly enjoyable and personable.

Sitting next to me during the meeting was a very affable and intelligent general dentist from Japan, whom I discovered was one of our featured podium speakers. Frankly, I do not remember Dr. Hirokazu Abo's lecture topic, because I was transfixed by the aspirating and retraction device he employed in his presentation slides.

In the U.S., this equipment is marketed under the name Coolex (Head Dental Corporation), and it is similar to Isodry (Isolite Systems) and Mr. Thirsty (Zirc Dental). But Coolex is low profile and is completely autoclavable, with no disposable parts.

Although the directions for use are written in Japanese, there are excellent YouTube videos (like the one above) that clearly demonstrate its use. I typically use the Nu-Block (Efficient Dental Technologies) disposable polycarbonate mouth prop on the contralateral side, along with the Coolex.

My patients have been satisfied with the Coolex, and my staff loves the simplicity of use and the fact there are no disposable parts to keep in stock. When the procedure is completed, we flush the Coolex with water for a few seconds, pack it in an autoclave bag and run it through the autoclave.

We have a bunch of the Coolex devices ready for use, because even my hygienists love to use them for patients who feel the need to stop and suction every minute. For hygiene use, we have found it acts like a super-aspirator when placed closest to the hygienist (since the patient is usually slightly tilted toward the hygienist) and left in that position for the entire hygiene visit.

Due to the brilliance of one of our assistants (Patty), we have also found that if we use one of the small plastic barrier sheets or autoclave tape to affix the aspirator hose to the tray or the chair arm, it allows the Coolex to be positioned without tension.

I am looking forward to what I will discover at the next AMED meeting entitled "Pathway to Perfection" Nov. 14-15 at the University of Maryland.

## About the Author



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