

What's hot and what's getting hotter!

by Howard S. Glazer, DDS

AMD Picasso Laser

■ **Soft tissue lasers** have



been appearing in the literature and at dental trade shows with a greater degree of frequency. In particu-

lar, diode lasers seem to be most interesting since they are relatively small instruments that can create a gingival trough, debride gingival tissue, and can eliminate bacteria that may be trapped in deep periodontal pockets. Other uses include operculectomy and frenectomy.

Certainly, cost of the unit and implementation has been a major drawback in soft tissue lasers being incorporated into daily practice. AMD has launched their new diode laser called Picasso. AMD has created a new laser that is not only technologically sound but affordable as well, so that everyone can now seriously consider incorporating laser technology into everyday practice. And, if you have performed and are familiar with electrosurgery, you will certainly find using a soft tissue diode laser much, faster, easier and better for you and the patient.

In general, lasers provide less discomfort for the patient than using a scalpel or electrosurgery, and they promote faster and better healing. The Picasso laser provides 0.1-7.0 watts in either continuous or pulse modes. It also allows for customizable pre-sets on a touch screen interface that is very user friendly. There is a basic on-line seminar available that will enable certification. In office training is also available from AMD and they can help with billing and marketing as well. The unit is shipped with one fiber, one handpiece, three pairs of safety goggles, a training/how-to DVD, foot control and fiber stripping device.

It is recommended that an accessory package that includes two fibers and an additional handpiece be purchased. Picasso is a ready-to-go, out-of-the-box solution for incorporating lasers into the everyday practice of dentistry

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