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HONG KONG/LEIPZIG, Germany: In May, Apple launched its iPad tablet computer in all major Asian markets. If you still do not know whether to give into the hype, here are some apps that may help you in your practice.

Lexi-Dental complete
With Lexi-Dental Complete, Lexi-Comp offers a full dental library with clinical information that dentist might need for fast diagnosis and treatment. Amongst others, the package includes databases on dental pharmacology and oral diseases as well as implant and oral surgery handbooks. Subscribers have also access to an extensive database of radiographs, illustrations and clinical images. In addition to iPhone/iPad, Lexi-Dental Complete is available for Android, BlackBerry, Palm OS and Windows Mobile.

Web: www.lexi.com

MacPractice
This US-based clinical software development firm that provides premium practice management, clinical, and EMR (electronic medical records) software for the Mac has announced a version of their Mac and iPhone solutions for the iPad. First up is a redesigned version of MacPractice Interface 2.0 that allows dentists to access their schedule and patient records store in MacPractice via Wi-Fi or a 3G connection. With the addition of the MacPractice HL7 Interface, doctors will also be able to add new patients and post procedures and diagnoses on the go. Other iPad releases include MacPractice Kiosk and MacPractice Web Interface enabling patients and staff to complete and sign MacPractice EMR forms, such as patient registration, HIPAA release, and medical history. Chairside Dental Chart for iPad and an EMR/EHR app for iPad are also in the works.

Web: www.MacPractice.com/iPad

iPad integration for SIRONA SIDEXIS XG
The SidexisMobilePlugin software from Reinke Software Engineering, Germany, is now available for the iPad. According to the manufacturer, the plugin supports the full resolution of Apple’s new device and offers full details in all kind of SIDEXIS dental images. Switching from the exam display to individual dental images will allow dental practitioners to present even smallest details to their patients.

Web: www.sidexisplugins.com

DDS GP
This universal iTunes app aims to offers dental practitioners a new way in patient consultation. It includes over 120 diagnoses and procedures, displayed through drawings, sketches, X-rays, and photos, which are easily accessible through a slider that lets you browse quickly through the single steps of treatment. According to the manufacturer Genuitive Inc, patients responded with a higher case acceptance rate when their dental practitioner was directly explaining conditions and treatment plans with the aid of DDS than when they were left alone to watch a video or simply handed printed brochures.

The full version is available at the iTunes app store for US$599. Users can also buy a trial version with limited content for US$0.99.

Web: www.ddsgp.com