A soft approach

Neil Sanderson discusses how to release your practice’s potential using management software

Investing in innovative technology is considered a logical course to improving a practice, but what about your practice management software? Often neglected, investing in a software system designed to increase efficiency and productivity could transform the dental team's working environment.

Using software specifically designed by experts in dental practice management will assist a practitioner in achieving a sought-after working environment, and enable practice staff to perform at their optimum with all finances, appointments and treatment schedules competently administered and maintained.

Do your research

Before deciding upon which software to employ, it is advantageous to research which areas of your practice can be improved and ensure that any new equipment will be compatible with your current system to maximise use. Purchasing all solutions from the same software provider ensures a consistent level of customer care and reduces the risk of incompatibility with present systems, which could cause a delay in installation.

The leading practice management software providers offer a product portfolio that includes organisation of patient information, appointment scheduling, online patient booking and customisable reports, devised to be user friendly and easy to access. Dental teams gain from providers assisting with software integration for the practice and the supply of product demonstrations on request for a beneficial insight.

Instant access

Software such as the Kodak R4 includes the 'Patient Central' feature enabling instant access to patient details, including previous treatments and clinical notes in one convenient place. Containing all relevant information necessary for every patient, time spent searching for files and notes can be greatly reduced, giving staff the opportunity to confidently focus on other tasks. The practice appointment calendar can also be accessed, for cancelling, rescheduling or making new appointments, all viewed on one easy to navigate screen to quickly see who is running late or for noting schedule gaps.

Integrated with a surgery's current Kodak equipment, the practice management software's 'Launcher' feature enables access to any Kodak imaging device without the need for a Kodak R4 licence. Any operator can use the feature; by selecting the right patient, the 'Launcher' will immediately take the image and automatically provide all the required patient information to the user. Employing such time-saving features will allow for improved time management, enabling more freedom to focus on patient satisfaction and reducing the risk of errors.

Improved environment

An investment in cutting-edge software that can be integrated with other practice technology such as digital imaging systems creates a working environment to be proud of, saving you time you never thought you had. Intuitive features work to enhance patient care and reduces the risk of incompatibility while providing patients with an outstanding level of service.

About the author

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