



Journal of Prosthodontics Dentistry
An Official Publication of Bureau for Health & Education Status Upliftment
 (Constitutionally Entitled As Health-Education, Bureau)

Lasers in dentistry: An emerging tool in the modern dental practice

Review Article


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ABSTRACT

The term LASER is an acronym for 'Light Amplification by the Stimulated Emission of Radiation'. Over the past several years, we have seen the strong emergence of lasers in the field of dentistry. Actually this beam of light within its various forms can carry information; weld metals, reattach a detached retina, remove tumors, furs tooth structure; provide an optical scenario and many hundreds of other functions. In dentistry, the hard tissue applications of lasers include caries prevention, bleaching, cavity preparation, dentinal hypersensitivity, disinfection of the root canal and for diagnostic purposes whereas soft tissue application includes frenectomies, removal of hyperplastic tissue, photodynamic therapy for malignancies, photostimulation of herpetic lesion, aesthetic gingival re-contouring and crown lengthening.

KEYWORDS: Lasers, photodynamic therapy, photostimulation.

Access this Article Online	Quick Response Code: 
Website: http://heb-nic.in/jopd	
Received on 11/02/2021	
Accepted on 29/04/2021 © HEB All rights reserved	