

The College of Dental Hygienists of Manitoba's Practice Guidelines for the Use of Oraqix



In the best interest of client safety, only registered dental hygienists with local anaesthetic education that are included on the Local Anaesthetic Roster may use oral anaesthetic mixtures that are inserted into the dental sulcus, such as Oraqix and Cetacaine. As with any new product, dental hygienists may be incorporating into their practice, the dental hygienist must ensure that she/he is competent in the appropriate administration techniques and has carefully reviewed the complete product information including mechanism of action, potential indications and contraindications for use, common side effects, etc. Additionally, the dental hygienist must know how to effectively manage adverse reactions to these products. Dental hygienists are expected to make evidence-based decisions regarding when it is appropriate to use such products for a client. Each case is client-specific.

Oraqix: FDA approved needle-free subgingival anaesthetic agent providing patients an option in anesthesia for SRP procedures. Oraqix is a combination of lidocaine and prilocaine mixed with a thermosetting polymer to provide a quick onset, short lived anaesthesia to the gingival tissues. Oraqix is dispensed via cartridges inserted into an autoclavable dispenser. The Oraqix solution will be in an oil form at room temperature upon administration, and will solidify into a gel with exposure to your client's body temperature. The gel remains in the sulcus long enough to allow the anesthetics to take effect and will be removed during scaling and root planing procedures. Once Oraqix is inserted into the gingival sulcus, it will take approximately 30 seconds for the gingival margin and periodontal tissues to be anesthetized. Overall duration of anesthesia ranges from 14-31 minutes with the average client responding to the anesthesia for approximately 20 minutes. Oraqix has been marketed as an effective, painless way to provide anesthesia for SRP procedures without the post-operative numbness that injectable local anesthesia provides. Studies related to the safety and efficacy of Oraqix are generally limited to adults between the ages of 18-65 years of age. Oraqix is either to be used with caution or contraindicated altogether in clients older than 65 years and younger than 18 years old. There are also other medical conditions that will require further exploration prior to using Oraqix. These conditions can be found on the product monograph: www.dentsply.ca/index.php?page=shop.product_details&flypage=flypage.tpl&product_id=518&category_id=52&option=com_virtuemart&Itemid=27

For further information consult your Dentsply representative,
www.dentalcompare.com/spotlight.asp?spotlightid=15 and www.oraqix.com.