Delivering CHX with the Waterpik® Pik Pocket™ Tip is More Effective than Rinsing with CHX for Implant Maintenance

Effects of Subgingival Chlorhexidine Irrigation on Peri-Implant Maintenance

Felo A, Shibly O, Ciancio S, Lauciello F, Ho A. ***Am J Dent*** 1997; 10:107-110

Objective

To evaluate the effect of the Waterpik® Water Flosser with the Pik Pocket™ Tip using half strength (0.06%) chlorhexidine (CHX) compared to rinsing with full strength (0.12%) CHX.

Methodology

This randomized, 3-month study involved 24 patients with a minimum of two implants. Once daily, half the subjects used the Waterpik® Water Flosser with the Pik Pocket™ Tip with 0.06% CHX and the other half rinsed with 0.12% CHX. Plaque biofilm, gingivitis, bleeding, stain, and calculus were evaluated. All subjects used a manual toothbrush.

Results

Patients who used the Waterpik® Water Flosser and the Pik Pocket™ Tip had significantly greater reductions in plaque biofilm, gingivitis, and stain than those who only rinsed with CHX. The Waterpik® Water Flosser was 87% more effective at reducing gingival bleeding than rinsing.

Conclusion

Patients who used the Waterpik® Water Flosser and the Pik Pocket™ Tip had significantly greater reductions in plaque biofilm, gingivitis, and stain than those who rinsed with CHX.