



Gordon J. Christensen

Clinicians Report

Reprint



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Best Products Evaluated During 2013: CR BUYING GUIDE

The following report lists the best of 514 new brand-name products evaluated during 2013, and the classic or control products with which they were compared. CR is the original and only independent dental product testing organization.

Gordon's Clinical Bottom Line: For many years, Clinicians Report (*previously CRA*) has identified and published an annual list of the best materials, devices, and techniques *that were evaluated that year*. The 2013 CR Buying Guide includes many classic products, study controls, and new products that can make your practice faster, easier, better, and potentially more profitable.

— Please Read —

Please read the following product category descriptions carefully. Products listed in this Buying Guide have been evaluated by the CR in-house science team and CR Evaluators. Each product in this report is color-coded to identify why it has been included in this 2013 listing.

- **Proven classic or control products** are listed alphabetically and in red. These products have been determined by research and long-term clinical use. They are used for new product comparisons. *Some categories do not have classics/controls listed.*
- **Highly rated new products** These were identified by in-house science evaluations and CR Evaluator use *during 2013*. Only products with an overall grade of 3.0 or higher (*4.0 highest*) and an Evaluator recommendation of 70% or greater were included.
- **CR Choice logos** are placed next to products that had the highest results in CR multi-product comparisons (*marked with *).

Products that are not listed may still be in testing or were not among the highest rated. **There are many other excellent products not placed in CR's independent testing this year. Please review previous CR Buying Guides for these additional successful products.**

ANESTHETICS AND ACCESSORIES

As reported in Clinicians Report March 2013

Lower Price and Longer Shelf Life with this Articaine Anesthetic

Orabloc (Pierrel)

Orabloc is the same formulation of anesthetic as the highly popular Septocaine (*articaine hydrochloride 4% and epinephrine 1:100,000*). It offers fast onset (*1–6 minutes*) and duration of up to 60 minutes. Most CR Evaluators use articaine as their standard local anesthetic. However, some clinicians do not use articaine for mandibular block injections to reduce the chance of parasthesias that have been reported by some clinicians.

Clinical Tip: This profound anesthetic requires about 1/2 the volume as lidocaine, 2% 1:100,00 epinephrine.

Advantages:

- Lower cost
- Quick onset of anesthesia
- Profound anesthesia
- Works well and is dependable
- Required less volume of anesthetic

Limitation:

- Lingering question of potential higher incidence of parasthesias with articaine in general



80¢ / Cartridge • \$39.95* / Box of 50

**suggested retail price*

Pierrel Pharma • www.orabloc.com

CR Conclusions: 94% of 34 CR Evaluators stated they would purchase Orabloc for their practice. 94% rated it excellent or good and worthy of trial by colleagues.

❖ *This is only a portion of the original report.* ❖

What is CR?

WHY CR?

CR was founded in 1976 by clinicians who believed practitioners could confirm efficacy and clinical usefulness of new products and avoid both the experimentation on patients and failures in the closet. With this purpose in mind, CR was organized as a unique volunteer purpose of testing all types of dental products and disseminating results to colleagues throughout the world.

WHO FUNDS CR?

Research funds come from subscriptions to the *Gordon J. Christensen Clinicians Report*®. Revenue from CR's "Dentistry Update"™ courses support payroll for non-clinical staff. All Clinical Evaluators volunteer their time and expertise. CR is a non-profit, educational research institute. It is not owned in whole or in part by any individual, family, or group of investors. This system, free of outside funding, was designed to keep CR's research objective and candid.

HOW DOES CR FUNCTION?

Each year, CR tests in excess of 750 different product brands, performing about 20,000 field evaluations. CR tests all types of dental products, including materials, devices, and equipment, plus techniques. Worldwide, products are purchased from distributors, secured from companies, and sent to CR by clinicians, inventors, and patients. There is no charge to companies for product evaluations. Testing combines the efforts of 450 clinicians in 19 countries who volunteer their time and expertise, and 40 on-site scientists, engineers, and support staff. Products are subjected to at least two levels of CR's unique three-tiered evaluation process that consists of:

1. Clinical field trials where new products are incorporated into routine use in a variety of dental practices and compared by clinicians to products and methods they use routinely.
2. Controlled clinical tests where new products are used and compared under rigorously controlled conditions, and patients are paid for their time as study participants.
3. Laboratory tests where physical and chemical properties of new products are compared to standard products.



Clinical Success is the Final Test

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CRA Foundation® changed its name to CR Foundation® in 2008.



This team is testing resin curing lights to determine their ability to cure a variety of resin-based composites.

Every month several new projects are completed.

THE PROBLEM WITH NEW DENTAL PRODUCTS.

New dental products have always presented a challenge to clinicians because, with little more than promotional information to guide them, they must judge between those that are new and better, and those that are just new. Due to the industry's keen competition and rush to be first on the market, clinicians and their patients often become test data for new products. Every clinician has, at one time or another, become a victim of this system. All own new products that did not meet expectations, but are stored in hope of some unknown future use, or thrown away at a considerable loss. To help clinicians make educated product purchases, CR tests new dental products and reports the results to the profession.