how to guide

scaling & root planing

Earn 1 hour CPD point

For better dentistry

Cavitron Plus

oraqix®

25/25mg per g periodontal gel
(lidocaine, prilocaine)
I used to regularly have patients reluctant to have scaling carried out because of the discomfort caused by deep scaling. Having discovered Oraqix® (the needle free 25/25 mg per g periodontal gel: Lidocaine, Prilocaine) and Slimline® inserts (40% slimmer than traditional tips), my patients now experience a more comfortable visit.

Oraqix® is placed in to the periodontal pockets, resulting in anaesthesia of the gingivae for about twenty minutes. I started by hand scaling the first patient that I tried Oraqix® on, regularly stopping to see if the patient was okay. Her response was positive throughout, and so gave me confidence to move on to the ultrasonic scaler. Having completed the treatment, we were both extremely happy with the result. Her final words as she left the surgery were, “I will not dread a visit to the practice for scaling again!” Patients now actually request future procedures to be carried out using Oraqix®.

The Slimline® inserts have a probe-like slim diameter and feel. They allow for easy insertion, exploration and instrumentation, and adapt to complex root anatomies and furcations. The technique shown in this guide demonstrates how they can be used quickly and for thorough subgingival scaling; by moving from quadrant to quadrant with just two different tips.

Oraqix®, along with the use of the Slimline® tips is advantageous to both patient and clinician: full mouth scaling and root planing can be carried out in just one visit; the contra-angled left and right Slimline® inserts provide optimal subgingival access; there is a decrease in discomfort for the patient, and quickness in which the treatment can be carried out in one go.

**Indications for use - Oraqix®**

In adults for localised anaesthesia in periodontal pockets for diagnostic and treatment procedures such as probing, scaling and/or root planing.

**Dosage**

For adults one cartridge (1.7 g) or less is sufficient for one quadrant of dentition. Maximum recommended dose is five cartridges (8.5 g gel). Oraqix® has not been studied in paediatric patients.

**Contra-indications:**

- Hypersensitivity to lidocaine, prilocaine, amide-type local anaesthetics or any excipients.
- Congenital or idiopathic methaemoglobinemia, recurrent porphyria.
- Precautions: Oraqix® must not be injected. Use with caution in patients with severe impairment of renal function, hepatic function, impulse initiation and conduction of the heart, patients in remission from porphyria or asymptomatic carriers of mutated genes responsible for porphyria. Patients with glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase deficiency are more susceptible to drug-induced methaemoglobinemia. Do not apply to ulcerative lesions or during acute infections of oral cavity.

Always read the manufacturer’s full directions for use

**Indications for use - Cavitron™ Slimline® inserts**

- All general supra and subgingival scaling applications.
- Periodontal debridement for all types of periodontal diseases.
- The left and right tips can be used in pockets greater than 4mm.
- The straight tip can be used in pockets less than 4mm.

**Contra-indications/Warnings**

- Should not be used for restorative dental procedures involving condensation of amalgam.
- Do not use if the insert tip is worn.
- Always use a LOW power setting or the Blue Zone™.

Always read the manufacturer’s full directions for use

**Example of a wear guide**

Inserts will last approximately 8-15 months depending on the type of tip and hours used. Periodically check Inserts for wear with the Cavitron™ Insert Efficiency Indicator.

**Note:** Not to scale

**Objectives**

Upon completion of this guide, the clinician will be able to do the following:

- **A** Understand how to use Oraqix® and the benefits it gives for SRP procedures.
- **B** Appreciate the benefits of subgingival scaling using Oraqix® and Slimline® inserts.
- **C** Understand the method in which to use the left, right and straight insert tips for complete mouth scaling in a quick and easy manner.
- **D** Recognise the need to check insert tips regularly to ensure optimum efficiency.
**What is scaling and root planing?**

Scaling is a procedure that meticulously removes contamination toxins, micro-organisms, plaque, tartar, cementum, dentin that is rough and/or permeated by calculus from around, below and under the gum line down to the bottom of the pocket. This is done to remove biofilm, calculus, and toxin down to the bottom of each periodontal pocket in order to obtain a healing response.

Root planing involves smoothing the root surfaces of teeth with thin curettes so gum tissue can more firmly re-attach to roots that are clean and smooth to prevent tooth loss and sensitivity problems. The procedure makes it more difficult for plaque to accumulate along the root surfaces.

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**Application of periodontal local anaesthetic gel**

1. Place a new blunt-tipped applicator onto the dispenser.
2. Fill the dispenser barrel with a new cartridge of Oraqix®.
3. Ensure the internal-ratchet mechanism is reset by pressing the re-set mechanism.
4. Assemble the body and tip of the dispenser together.
5. Apply the blunt tip first at the gingival margin.
6. Wait 30 seconds, then using the applicator tip like a probe, go to the depth of the pocket and fill the pocket with Oraqix®.
7. Wait another 30 seconds, then begin scaling and/or root planing.
8. Note: Because of its thermosetting properties, it is important to apply Oraqix® beginning at the base of the pocket. This will prevent Oraqix® from setting to a gel before it reaches the depth of the pocket.
9. Move onto the lower left lingual.
10. Turn power level control to the low power setting or the Blue Zone™.
11. Place the insert into the handpiece remembering to ensure that there is a steady flow of water through the handpiece as the insert is slotted in.
12. Using light pressure with a pen or modified pen grasp, adapt the insert tip so the point is not directed into the root surface. Using the left Slimline® insert, start at the lower right buccal.
13. Using the right Slimline® insert start at the lower left buccal.
14. The straight Slimline® tip can be used for light calculus removal and deplaquing of pockets which are less than 4mm.