

“...In a generation, trays are going to change the face of dentistry.”

One clinician's view on the PerioProtect Method® and Perio Trays®.

By Anna Sacks



Perio Tray® by PerioProtect

Used by dentists and periodontists alike, this method is customizable to fit the needs of individual patients who are working to battle biofilm. The method is minimally invasive through the use of trays containing chemical therapy meant to break up biofilm in the periodontal pocket while treating the pocket's microbiological environment to deter further growth of biofilm.

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BRUCE COCHRANE
PRACTICING 43 YEARS

As a periodontist of 43 years I'm naturally leery. I started using this product in 2007 after I'd caught wind of it through various journals. I thought it might have some potential because it's got a good scientific basis to it, so I decided to give it a try. Now, I think this tool is as powerful as the toothbrush, and I think in a generation, trays are going to change the face of dentistry.

In the five years you've used PerioProtect®, how has it worked out for you?

The Perio Tray® is a fabulous product. I mean it's not a cure-all but it is probably the strongest tool I use in the maintenance portion of my practice. As

I've used it, my use has evolved. When I first began to use it I limited it to those maintenance patients that I thought were failing, you know, excessive bleeding, poor home care, lack of compliance. As time has gone by I've changed to the point where it's now an alternative to strict two or three-month recall and it frees up the patient a considerable amount in milder cases. I'm even beginning to use it now as a way to minimize the amount of periodontal surgery I do.

What was the process of incorporating the PerioProtect Method® into your practice like?

I thought it went smoothly enough. It took some education on my part because at the time my staff

was not familiar with taking impressions or pouring stone. Once I determined that this was a product I was going to go with and continue to use, it was about a six-month process to get it incorporated. Up until then I had been doing all of these things myself, so I broke out of my normal periodontal routine and trained my staff, and after about a year things smoothed out.

Now my staff is very enthusiastic about it and my hygienists are comfortable spotting the patients they think it would help as well as explaining it to them. I keep the PerioProtect® website on my business card so we can refer patients to it and let them get an idea of what we're talking about, and I think that's been a useful tool.