*Das Endodontie Journal ist die offizielle Zeitschrift der Deutschen Gesellschaft für Endodontie e. V. (DGEndo) und eine der meinungsbildenden Publikationen des Fachgebietes. Ein kostenloses Probeexemplar ist am Stand der Oemus Media AG (Halle 13.3, Stand A 60–B 61) erhältlich.

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Microscopy in Endodontology

Although the microscope already made an entry into HNO as early as 1921, it was more than another half-century notice was also taken and use made of it in our specialisation. The first experiments were made in 1975 and seventeen years later in 1992, Professor Kim in Philadelphia established the first university training courses for microscopy in endodontology.

■ *The microscope has formed a firm part in the curriculum for the training of endontologists in the USA since 1998. A study shows that they use it to look for canal entrances, for check-ups after preparation and for microsurgery.*

What is the situation for us here in Europe? In Germany some 500 microscopes have been sold to date. The number of colleagues who are embarking on continuing education courses in the subject is growing only slowly, but the growth is sustained. Thanks to the personal self-sacrifice and the work done by Klaus Janik and his team it has been possible to arrange study visits for numerous colleagues in Philadelphia or to motivate them through visits to Peter Velvart in Switzerland. Yesterday's students are the teachers of today, with the result that we now already have our own university training course here in Germany– with Professor Raab in Düsseldorf. The OP-Microscope now also forms a component of medical studies at other German universities. The optical industry supports us lecturers over and above these requirements through the provision of mobile microscopes; with the result that microscope course can be held not only in the universities, but also in quality circles. Our thanks go out to them for this support

There are plenty of studies proving the positive influence of the microscope on therapy success. Among these I would like to draw particular attention to the study by Kim and Rubinstein (JOE 24, 43; 1999): In their study the two were able to prove that the result after root tip resection using an OP microscope was in no way behind that for orthograde root filling. I continue to find the results of the study of colleague Arnold in Dresden extraordinary: he was able to show that the OP microscope has a positive influence on the conservation training of students.

OP microscope and filling therapy: who comes up with the costs for all of this? The question is justified, but perhaps it is also an approach to considering buying magnifying spectacles for the practice The advantages of a microscope in comparison with magnifying spectacles, are in the wide range of magnification possibilities offered as well as in the coaxial transmission of the light that is required for a no-shadow illumination of the working area.

The result: there are less expensive solutions than the microscope that can be used, but they are not necessarily better solutions.

Ihr
Yours

Dr. Karl Behr

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