STOMA DENTAL ANNOUNCES DISTRIBUTION PARTNERSHIP WITH HENRY SCHEIN

DOVE® Line of Valves Now Available in 25-Unit Packaging

ST. LOUIS, MO – May 28, 2015 – Stoma Dental’s unique new line of DOVE® disposable high volume evacuation (HVE) and saliva ejector (SE) valves are now available through Henry Schein Dental, one of the world’s largest providers of healthcare products and services to office-based dental practices. Stoma Dental makes this announcement in conjunction with the unveiling of its exhibit at the 2015 Annual Symposium of the Organization for Safety, Asepsis, and Prevention (OSAP) taking place in Baltimore this week, as it also introduces new 25-unit packaging for its DOVE valves.

“Our new partnership with Henry Schein allows Stoma Dental to respond swiftly and successfully to the anticipated demand and planned market expansion associated with our groundbreaking antimicrobial infused disposable HVE and SE valves,” says Robert Vanderselt, Managing Partner, Stoma Dental. “As a recently approved OSAP Corporate Member, we are pleased that this significant expansion in distribution will now allow dental practitioners nationwide access to our products and the added ability to optimize infection control protocols and the highest level of patient safety.”

Stoma Dental’s disposable DOVE® valves, which can be quickly changed in between patients, reduce the risk of potential cross contamination with pathogenic viruses and bacteria due to reverse flow, or backflow, which has been shown to occur when dental patients close their lips around the evacuator tip and there is greater negative pressure in the patients’ mouth than in the evacuator tube. Studies have shown that this occurs in as many as in 1 in 5 patients who close their lips around the SE tip,1 which can cause material from the mouth of a previous patient that builds up in the vacuum line of the SE to be aspirated into the mouth of the next patient.

In fact, due to the potential for backflow like this, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends against the practice of asking patients to close their lips around the SE tip during use.2 CDC also recommends that vacuum tubing be flushed regularly and that SE and HVE valves be autoclaved in between patients.3

DOVE Valves Now Available in 25-Unit Packs

In conjunction with the OSAP meeting, Stoma Dental also is announcing the introduction of its new 25-unit packaging for its HVE and SE valves, which Henry Schein is now offering its customers along with the previously available larger package containing 150 units.

“We understand that efficiency and ease of use are crucial when integrating any new device or product into a dental practice,” says Vanderselt. “Our DOVE® valve system offers superior infection control in an intuitively simple form, and we will continue to look for ways to make their integration into dental practices convenient and trouble free.”

Despite concerns about cross contamination, and specific infection guidance by CDC and metal valve manufacturers, research shows that more than 75 percent of dental practices do not adhere to these more rigorous infection control recommendations and that widespread inconsistency in infection control protocols do exist.4
To eliminate variability when anti-infection protocols need to be optimized and patient safety is a top priority, the DOVE® line of disposable valves can be integrated into a private dental practice or institutional dental setting, improving workflow and reducing critical labor-intensive staff time.

The DOVE® HVE and SE valves are simple to operate: A smooth and easy switch activation by the dentist, assistant, or hygienist operates the open and closing mechanism. At the end of each procedure, the valves can be pulled off of the vacuum line and discarded.

The entire process takes a matter of seconds, making their use much more efficient and cost-effective than metal valves, which can take more than 10 minutes (excluding autoclave time), and at times even two staff members, to disassemble and sterilize when following more stringent protocols, such as those recommend by the metal valve manufacturers and CDC.

About Stoma Dental

Stoma Dental is a St. Louis-based company whose mission is to develop and market easy to use, disposable anti-infection devices for use in the dental operatory. The DOVE® (Disposable Oral Valve Evacuation) system includes HVE and SE valves, tailcaps and tailpieces, which represent the first products launched by the company. The DOVE® line of products are produced in the facilities of an ISO 13485 certified facility located in Phoenix, AZ.

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2,3 Guidelines for Infection Control in Dental a Health-Care Setting, CDC MMWR 2003; 52 (No. RR-17)

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