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Photodynamic therapy in periodontal therapy: microbiological observations from a private practice.

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Abstract

In recent years, the combination of **laser** light and photosensitizer known as photodynamic **therapy** (PDT) has been used in **periodontal therapy**. However, there are not enough clinical studies to fully evaluate the effects of PDT on the **periodontal** tissues. This microbiological study examined the effects of PDT on the **periodontal** bacteria in combination with scaling and root planing (SRP) in the same group of patients by randomly selecting PDT or SRP for use in different quadrants of the mouth. For the present study, PDT was compared with a diode **laser** (980 nm) and an Nd:YA G **laser** (1,064 nm). Microbiological samples were examined and evaluated over a period of three months. Significant **bacterial reduction** has been observed in all cases. The diode **laser** with SRP presented long-term positive results, while PDT showed a significant bacteria **reduction** during the entire observation period.

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