

DPS

The recently published results of the Adult Dental Health Survey showed that over 33% of adults have moderate dental anxiety and 12% are classified as having extreme dental anxiety. The pain associated with the drill and the local anaesthetic injection is the most feared aspect of dental treatment.

The Wand is one of the latest electronic devices to deliver local anaesthetic. It consists of a microprocessor that automatically compensates for different tissue densities, delivering the anaesthetic at a constant pressure. A foot pedal controls the flow rate of anaesthetic. The system uses standard dental local anaesthetic cartridges.

The Wand's less threatening appearance reduces anxiety and stress according to Kudo et al (2001). The reported pain rates were lower with The Wand compared to the standard syringe and eight other anaesthetic delivery systems, suggesting that patient fear and anxiety may be related to the appearance of the traditional syringe.

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