From: Neil Martin [mailto:Neil.Martin@northantsheartlandspct.nhs.uk]

Sent: 09 October 2006 11:12 To: 'dps@btinternet.com'

Subject: The Wand

We had 400-500 or so child GA referrals last year and from a quick trawl of these, we reckoned about 40 were taken off for LA extractions using the Wand.

These cases were mostly one or two teeth deciduous extractions on the slightly older child 6-7 years old, or one adult first molar removal on a 10-12 year old

However, we did remove 2 upper As on a co-operative 3 year old with the Wand and amazed ourselves, the child and her mother. We do not extract premolars under GA for orthodontic reasons so we also see about 30 cases a year of premolar extractions referred for RA. With the Wand and RA we can remove four fours or fives in about 20-25 minutes at one go.

I also do IV sedation and there are some phobics where I feel that the Wand and RA gives a longer more controlled appointment than IVS. However IVS still is an important tool and the Wand has little use in these cases.

An unrelated use is scaling on adult patients with mild learning disability. The Wand lets us get widespread but soft tissue LA quite quickly and painlessly in both arches assisting patient comfort.

Best wishes

Neil Martin Senior Community Dentist Northamptonshire PCT