



FROM THE PRESIDENT

Clinical Insights for Better Outcomes

Welcome to the first 2026 edition of OraTalk!

Many customers have written requesting new editions of OraTalk, our occasional newsletter. Request granted. 😊

This first 2026 edition should be of particular interest to those who've been considering getting one of our BioScan Periodontal Risk microscopes. If you already have one, you know how good it is at finding periodontal infections long before they manifest clinically and motivating patients to perform better home care. But it can do a lot more for your practice.

BioScan

Periodontal Risk Microscopes

See What Traditional Exams Miss.



But, did you know that BioScan microscopes can do other things as well?

Most of our customers already know that BioScan microscopes enable them to examine patient subgingival biofilms for periodontal pathogens. Specifically for the presence of 57 pathogenic *Treponema* species (spirochetes) and elevated WBC's, both of which predict future loss of attachment.



Verify Treatment Efficiency

Confirm professional treatment eliminated pathogens.



Verify Home-Care Protocol Efficacy

Determine if the protocol itself is effective.



Verify Home-Care Compliance

Identify patients who aren't following the protocol correctly.



Evaluate Antibiotic Regimens

Assess the efficacy of different antibiotic regimens.



Check Dosing Compliance

Verify patients followed systemic dosing instructions.



Verify Antimicrobial Product Claims

Scientifically test product claims.

Verify Professional Treatment Efficacy

Examine a subgingival biofilm after treatment. For example, if you irrigated a quadrant following scaling, sample and view that site with your BioScan microscope.

If treatment was successful, the sample should be entirely free of living spirochetes.

If live organisms remain, the protocol was not completely effective and the patient is still infected.

Antibiotic Compliance Matters

Multiple studies have shown patient compliance with antibiotic regimens is significantly lower than expected.

Comparing Once vs. Twice Daily Dosing

80.3% vs. 68.6%

Patients taking the correct number of doses each day.

74.4% vs. 56.4%

Patients taking doses at the correct time intervals.

Key Finding

25–44%

Of antibiotic users were considered non-compliant.

Given this level of non-compliance, BioScan should routinely be used after prescribing antibiotics to verify patient compliance.

Test Antimicrobial Products Yourself

A simple in vitro BioScan test can determine whether a product truly kills periodontal pathogens.

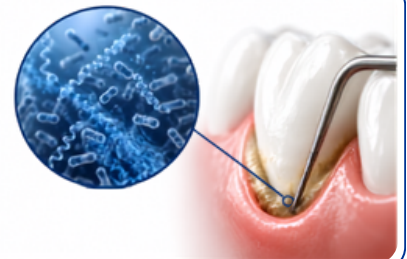
Procedure

1. Collect a subgingival biofilm sample from a patient with live spirochetes.
2. Prepare the sample on a microscope slide.
3. Seal with OraSeal, leaving two small openings.
4. Confirm live spirochetes are present.
5. Place a drop of the product on one opening.
6. Observe as evaporation draws the product through the biofilm.



If Product X is genuinely antimicrobial, the bacteria should die as it diffuses through the biofilm. Unaffected spirochetes will continue their usual frenetic motion. Dead spirochetes will just float rigidly in place.

If the product can't kill bacteria on a slide (in vitro), it's highly unlikely to do so in the sulcus (in vivo).



We hope you found this issue of OraTalk interesting and useful. We'll be sending you additional issues in the coming months with more helpful insights and expert tips from OraTec and the world of Anti-Infective Periodontal Therapy.



OraTalk• with Bill Landers

The latest clinical news, research, and product information to help you simplify your day-to-day and optimize the outcomes of your care.

Bill Landers
President
OraTec Corp
blanders@oratec.net