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## SimpliScale Periodontal Therapy

Instrument cassette / set

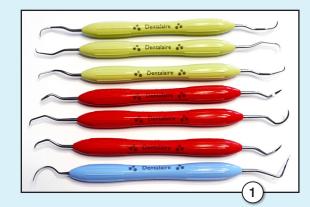




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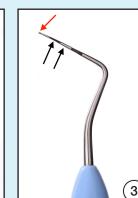


The Dentalaire SimpliScale™ Periodontal Therapy Kit features groundbreaking instrument design that provides all the instruments needed for cleaning and treatment of periodontal pockets, using six instruments instead of nine ordinary instruments. These six instruments plus the probe/explorer in the kit are all that is needed to deliver complete periodontal therapy for canine and feline patients. The lightweight non-slip ergonomic grips, unique design, autoclaveable tray, durable lettering and utilization of the highest quality steel ensure that these instruments will provide excellent tactile sensitivity, decrease operator fatigue, speed up treatment, remain sharp longer than ordinary instruments and last for years while still looking brand new. Taking a few minutes to review this guide will simplify periodontal therapy in your patients and ensure superior clinical results.



The entire kit (Figure 1) comes in an autoclaveable tray for protection of the instruments and convenient sterilization. The instruments in the set are color-coded. The probe/explorer is blue. The three scalers are red and the three curettes are green. Do not use the red instruments under the gingival margin (red = danger under the gumline). Reserve the green instruments for cleaning under the gingival margin (green = safe under the gumline). Scalers and curettes are both "hand scaling instruments" (HSI), meaning you hold them in your hand and utilize them to scale (scrape) calculus off the crown and root surfaces.

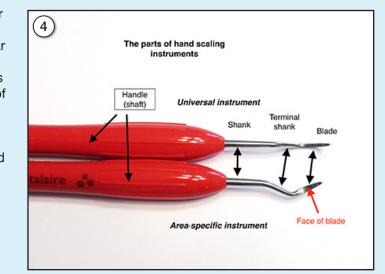


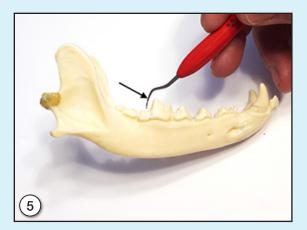


The probe/explorer is an indispensable instrument with two ends that are utilized for different purposes. Figure 2 shows the dental explorer end of the instrument, which is used to probe the crowns of the teeth for evidence of caries and diagnose exposure of the pulp chamber (root canal system) in crown fractures. Figure 3 shows the periodontal probe end of the instrument. The probe is used to measure the depth of the gingival sulcus to help identify periodontal pockets and gingival hyperplasia. Each of the colored bands (black arrows) are 3 mm long. The small ball on the end of the probe (red arrow) decreases trauma to the delicate subgingival tissues. When utilizing this instrument, use very light forces comparable to the weight of a dime to avoid falsely elevating the probing depth.

Figure 4 shows the parts of hand-scaling instruments. The handle is where you grip the instrument, the shank is the metal part of the instrument as it emerges from the handle, the terminal shank is the last part of the shank before the blade, the blade is the working end of the instrument with sharp edges, and the face of the instrument is the flat part of the blade between the cutting edges. There are two types of hand scaling instruments; universal instruments which are used in the anterior dentition and area-specific instruments which allow access for treatment of the posterior dentition. These two types of instruments are easily differentiated by looking at the instrument with the face positioned toward you. In the picture below, the handle, shank and blade of the universal instrument are all parallel when viewed from this angle. Universal instruments are used for the canine teeth and incisors. The area-specific instrument has an extra bend in the shank. This extra bank is what allows the operator to access the back of the mouth for treatment of the posterior dentition.

Knowing whether an instrument is universal or area-specific allows you to easily identify the correct cutting (scaling) angle of that particular instrument, ensuring effective treatment. When using area-specific scalers and curettes in the back of the mouth, the terminal shank of the instrument should be parallel to the surface being cleaned. When using universal scalers and curettes in the front of the mouth, the handle and shank of the instrument should be parallel to the surface being cleaned. The following pictures will illustrate these important points. Please re-read this paragraph until it makes sense. The concepts are simple, but it might take a few minutes to grasp.





The posterior scaler (figure 5) is used to clean the crowns of the posterior dentition (behind the canine teeth). Be sure to keep the blade of this instrument above the gingival margin. Note that the terminal shank (arrow) of this area-specific instrument is parallel to the surface of the tooth being cleaned. One end of the instrument is used to access the teeth from the lingual (inside) of the dental arcade and the other end is used to access the teeth from the buccal (outside) of the dental arcade. The posterior scaler petite (smaller) version of this instrument is used the same way to clean the crowns of smaller teeth behind the canine teeth.

The anterior scaler has a regular end and a smaller (petite) end. Figure 6 shows the regular end being used to clean the crown of the canine tooth. The correct cutting angle of this universal instrument is achieved when the shank and handle (arrows) are parallel to the surface being cleaned. Both sides of the blade may be utilized as needed.

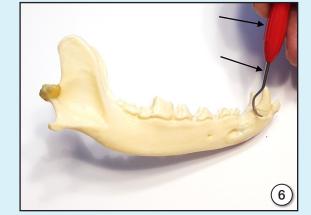
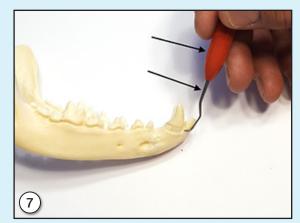
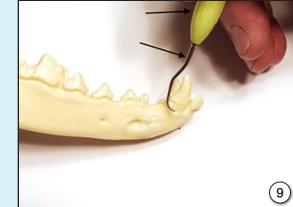
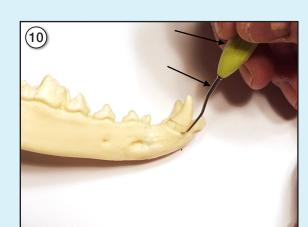


Figure 7 shows the petite (smaller) end of the anterior scaler being utilized to clean the crown of a smaller incisor tooth. Once again, as with all universal instruments used in the front of the mouth, the correct cutting angle is achieved when the shank and handle (arrows) of the instrument are parallel to the tooth surface being cleaned. Both sides of the petite blade may be used as needed to access all sides of the tooth.

The Universal Gracey curette shown in figure 8 is unique in that it is both universal and area specific. This instrument is used to clean under the gumline behind the canine teeth. The unique design allows cleaning the distal (back) surface of one tooth and the mesial (front) surface of the adjacent tooth without any need to change instruments, replacing two ordinary Gracey curettes. One end of the instrument is used to access the teeth from the lingual (inside) of the dental arcade and the other end is used to access the teeth from the buccal (outside) of the dental arcade. As with all area-specific instruments used in the back of the mouth, the correct cutting angle is achieved when the terminal shank (arrow) is parallel to the root surface being cleaned. The Universal Gracey Petite (smaller) version of this instrument also replaces two ordinary Gracey curettes and is used in a similar fashion to clean smaller pockets and teeth under the gumline.







The Universal Gracey Anterior Curette pictured in figure 9 is used to clean periodontal pockets in the anterior dentition. As with all universal instruments, the correct cutting angle is achieved when the shank and handle are parallel to the surface being cleaned. Both sides of the blade may be used as needed. This instrument also replaces two ordinary Gracey curettes.

The petite (smaller) end of the Universal Gracey Anterior curette is used for smaller periodontal pockets in the anterior dentition. Figure 10 shows the petite end of the instrument being used in a simulated narrow periodontal pocket on the buccal aspect of the canine tooth. As with all universal instruments, the correct cutting angle is achieved when the shank and handle are parallel to the surface being cleaned. Both sides of the blade may be used as needed.

The acrylic test stick included in the kit is used to ensure the instruments are sharp. When holding the instrument against the test stick at the correct cutting angle, the cutting edge of a sharp instrument will bite into the test stick. If the cutting edge of the instrument does not bite instrument and just glides freely, the instrument should be sharpened.