

# Orthodontic Products Update

## Cross Infection Control and Elastomeric Module Delivery Systems

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Elastomeric modules/donuts/O-rings – call them what you will, but most orthodontists use them routinely. Given this, it is important that they are used in a way that will not compromise cross-infection control. The manufacturers have responded to this challenge by introducing a variety of new designs and delivery systems for single patient use. This review does not promise to be exhaustive, particularly as new products are regularly introduced. Readers are advised to contact the relevant supply company for further details, prices and offers.

### 3M UNITEK

PO Box 1,  
Bradford,  
BD5 9UY.

Tel 01274 392222 Fax 01274 392227

### ALASTIK PS

This dispensing system consists of spools of (1002) A1 (standard size) modules in a continuous chain comprising units of 6 modules. The spool is mounted in a cartridge which has a cutting edge so that the chain can be cut and multiples of 6 modules dispensed for individual patient use. The cartridges fit into a base unit which holds 4 cartridges. Refill spools can be purchased separately, as can base units. A variety of colours are available. Cartridges of elastic chain which fit into the same base unit are also available. Cost Base unit and 4 cartridges £44.98 plus vat. Refills (4 cartridges) £39.96 plus vat.

### MINI STIK LIGATURES

Sold in 6 colours and 2 sizes – A1 for standard brackets and A3 for mini brackets. Each stik has 24 elastomeric ligatures. Cost £38.95 plus vat for 30 sticks. Bulk discounts are available.

### AMERICAN ORTHODONTICS (UK) LTD

Forge Works  
Lane End

High Wycombe

Tel 01628 477 921 Fax 01494 883351

### PLASTIC LIGATURES

Uni-stick with a thumb ring to allow more freedom for operative tasks. 460 sticks per bag (960 ligatures). Available in many colours. There is also a dispenser available for the uni-sticks.

Cost of ligatures £21.56 plus vat

Cost of dispenser £40.19 plus vat

### 6 STICKS COLOURED PLASTIC LIGATURES

Eliminates having to cut large sticks apart. 6 ligatures per stick/160 sticks per bag (960 ligatures). These can be bought in many colours or can buy a box for storing with assorted 6 sticks in situ.

Cost of ligatures per bag £22 plus vat

Cost for assorted 6 stocks in box (kit) £67.70 plus vat

### CANED LIGATURES

1000 ligatures per pack in many colours.

Cost per 1000 £18.02 plus vat

Cost per 5000 £51.40 plus vat

### GAC

The Orthodontic Company

19, Gloucester Road North

Filton

Bristol

Tel 0117 975 5533 Fax 0117 975 5575

### SANI-TIES

Sold in many colours (32) made from 100% virgin polyurethane and sold in bags of 45 runners with 22 elastomers per runner.

Cost £21.49 plus vat

### TINY-TIES

Same material as Sani-ties (10) but sold in packs of 100 with 8 tie runners. Useful as they are patient specific. (They also sell a Tiny-tie storage box).

Cost £18.49 plus vat

### ELASTORINGS

Dispensed in a circular form of a 100 rings with 100 ligatures per ring. They can be cut into 4 arcs to avoid cross contamination.

Cost £19.20 plus vat

### LAS-TIES

Elastic ties on preloaded on canes or in bulk packs where you load the canes yourself. The canes hold up to 50 ligatures and help with ease of handling. There are many colours available as well as clear and grey.

The canes once chosen can be placed in the patient's record card or box to prevent cross contamination.

Cost £19.20 for 1000 / £96.00 for 5000 plus vat

**MASEL**

2701, Bartram Road,  
Bristol, PA 19007  
USA  
Tel 0800 89 7700 Fax 0800 895039

**CANED**

These come preloaded, with 1000 per pack comprising of 20 canes of 50 modules. There are many colours available and can be stored in the record card, or model box.

Cost per 1000 \$13.95

**BULK PACK**

1000 of each colour (26) available. It can be very time consuming loading the canes or therapeutic depending on your own personal taste!

Cost per 1000 \$3.95

**FLAVOURED**

These are in limited colours but the flavours available are cherry, bubblegum or peppermint. How long the flavour lasts is not recorded in the catalogue.

Cost per 1000 \$5.95

**LATEX FREE**

Useful for patients with a latex allergy. Again limited colours and flavours.

Cost per 1000 \$4.95

**UNICYCLE MODULES****ELECTRIK**

Designed for single patient use with 24 modules to a stick allows convenient wire change without fear of contaminating unused modules. The module design has been altered to make ligating easier.

These come in unflavoured form.

Cost per pack of 1008 \$22.95

**FLAVOURED**

Cost of 240 \$7.49

**ADOBE****UNICYCLE MODULES**

These are in particular colours designed to attract teenagers and adults to have orthodontic treatment. They are produced as runners with 24 per stick.

Cost per pack of 1008 \$22.95

Latex free version available also.

Cost of 240 \$7.49

**ORTHOCARE**

5, Oxford Place  
Bradford  
West Yorkshire  
Tel 01274 392 017 Fax 01274 734 446

**ELASTO-O-LOOP II**

Classified as highly elastic, ideal for 'figure of 8' type ligating. Supplied on convenient, easy to use dispenser sticks. They are also available on patient sticks, to help prevent cross contamination. Available in many colours. 1008 ligatures per pack.

Cost £19.50 plus vat

**BRIT-TIES ELASTOMERIC LIGATING MODULES**

Available in three sizes to fit all brackets. These are supplied on canes.

1000 ligatures per pack.

Cost £14.20 plus vat

**GLOW IN THE DARK**

Modules dispensed on a loop containing 20 modules. They actually glow in the dark and are available in several colours.

Cost per 1000 £10.95 plus vat

**ORTHOLOGIC**

Summit House  
Summit Road  
Potters Bar  
Hertfordshire  
EN6 3EE  
Tel 01707 646 434 Fax 01707 646 426

**PATIENT STICKS LIGATURE TIES**

A convenient way to handle Elastic Ligature Ties. 45 sticks to a box and 24 ties to a stick. One of the colours available is fluoridated.

Cost for fluoride releasing £19.80 plus vat.

**T.P. ORTHODONTICS UK**

12, Bruntcliffe Way  
Morley  
Leeds LS27 0JG  
Tel 0113 253 9192 Fax 0113 253 9193

**INTRA-ORAL ELASTOMERS****CAROUSEL LIGATURE DISPENSER**

This is economical, easy to use and meets infection control standards. Neither the surgery staff or the patients hands ever contaminate the elastomeric ligatures within the dispenser.

The carousel has 13 compartments to accommodate TP's different coloured ligatures. Each compartment can hold approximately 350 ligatures for a total of 4,550 in each dispenser. The centre compartment can hold up to 2,500 ligatures.

Cost for Carousel £51.37 plus vat.

Carousel Ligature Dispenser Refill Rubes allow you to easily reload the Carousel compartments in seconds (without removing the cap). Each refill tube holds approximately 2,000 ligatures. The outer compartments of the carousel can be refilled nearly 6 times from one tube.

Cost per colour of refill £16.09 plus vat.

**DISPENSE-A-STIX**

Dispense-A-Stix are designed for single patient use with 24 ligatures per stick to reduce the risk of cross contamination. The elastomeric material used is highly resilient, colourfast and stain-resistant. Many colours available.

Cost of 20 dispensers £5.60 plus vat.

### LIG-A-TIES

Ligation rings in aesthetic or exciting colours are on convenient canes to simplify use. Canes can be bought empty and loaded at surgery.

Cost for 20 canes with 50 ties on each £9.22 plus vat.

From the information in the various orthodontic catalogues there are numerous ways of presenting ligatures some are more aware of the need for cross contamination control than others, although in the end it is up to the orthodontist and the staff to ensure that whatever system is used the risk of contamination is eliminated.

## PRODUCTS UPDATE SECTION

### Mouthguards – now with added protection!

One laboratory has come up with a novel marketing idea for their mouthguards, which is sure to be popular with both patients and their dentists. Sportsguard are now offering insurance, for up to £1000 worth of private dental treatment, in the event of injury to the teeth occurring whilst one of their mouthguards is being worn. The patient's own dentist would be asked to carry out the treatment, rather than a third party.

The Sportsguard mouthguards are priced at £13.95 to

dental practitioners. They are fabricated from an impression supplied by the dentist, by a method which involves pressure-forming in a vacuum.

In addition to a choice of 20 colours, Sportsguard's mouthguards are available plain or striped – the latter option should prove popular with football supporters. Further customisation can be achieved by the inclusion of a logo or design, although this costs an additional £20.

Further details (and waiting room fliers) are available from Sportsguard Tel: 01727 875688.