Biolase launches first laser for root canal disinfection in Asia

IRVINE: Biolase Technology has announced the launch of a new, minimally invasive root canal therapy system, which will assist dentists perform root canal procedures faster and more effectively than conventional treatment methods. The Endolase RFT, which is available for immediate delivery in all major markets including Korea, Japan, Australia and New Zealand, is the first complete laser treatment for root canal therapy, the company says.

The device includes two newly designed, single-use laser tips, one for anterior and another for posterior teeth, and the procedure protocol for use with the company’s own Waterlase MD Y5G0 laser system. The finely-designed endoTips, which are approximately two-to-three times the width of a human hair and very flexible, are shaped so the laser energy is emitted in a radial pattern, allowing the dentist to disrupt the root cavity while protecting and preserving both structure.

According to the company, another key element of the laser therapy is that the disinfection procedure can be done in only two to three minutes, compared to the 20-30 minutes required in traditional chemical treatments using sodium hypochlorite that have been performed since the 1930s.

“The effectiveness of this treatment lends itself to improving the way that we perform root canal therapy.” Dr Ray Stevens from the Department of Endodontontology, at Temple’s Kernberg School of Dentistry, USA, said adding that the research results the Endolase RFT is based on were of “great significance” for several reasons.

“Bacteria are known to be highly resistant to other disinfection currently used in root canal therapy and our research demonstrates that the disinfection capability of the laser is effective at a distance into the dentin surrounding the canal, overcoming some accessibility problems for conventional treatment methods. Therefore, a high level of disinfection can be achieved in minutes, saving both the patient and dentist considerable time during endodontic treatment,” he added.