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An intriguing technological approach to reduce iatrogenic errors in operative dentistry

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Introduction: As much as hand-skills are important in Dentistry and Dentist to go through so much skill-based training, iatrogenic errors do happen sometimes especially in Operative Dentistry. Such errors lead to unintended consequences such as pain and discomfort for patients putting the Dentist-patient relationship at stake.

Purpose: The aim of this paper is to explore if an innovation Haptic technology could address such errors. Discussion: An innovative idea called the Haptic Feedback Processing Unit (HFPU) is proposed. HFPU is an external unit that constantly monitors actual preparations made by Dentist with pre-loaded ideal preps to provide wireless feedback through micro-vibrations in Dentist's index finger. The idea is developed and discussed in detail including various components of HFPU, its functions, the communication path and the decision-making process. HFPU designed as an enabler to Dentist's dexterity and it is not meant to replace or take over operative procedure.

Conclusion: This manuscript presents this innovative idea as the one with a promising future to avoid or reduce iatrogenic errors in operative dentistry. Further development and testing could drive this from drawing board to the real world.

Biography

Manju Natarajan - B.D.S, C.D.A, M.S is a foreign trained dentist and a certified dental assistant in the US. She has over 3.5 years of Dental experience in India and has also volunteered 1000+ hours with various organizations in both India and the US. Her research experience includes oral health, technology, and Diabetes.

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