MECHANICAL MANAGEMENT OF BIOFILM  
ARE WE AT A TIPPING POINT?  

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The underworld of subgingival biofilm can be a formidable environment for clinicians. Traditionally, the battle against biofilm communities thriving subgingivally has been fought with a blend of hand and power-driven instruments. In the last few years in North America and for over 10 years in Europe, indications for the use of air-pressed mechanical biofilm disruption technology with the use of low abrasive-based powders for both supragingival and subgingival biofilm has been developed. This evidence-informed review will explore the Airflow® mechanism and its clinical application for biofilm management for teeth and implants.

EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES

1. Understand the concepts of “polishing”
2. Examine the clinical evidence surrounding subgingival Airflow®
3. Integrate the Guided Biofilm Therapy protocol in the dental office

PENNY HATZIMANOLAKIS, MSc, Clinical Associate Professor, UBC received her education at the University of British Columbia, completing both a Bachelor (2004) and Master degrees (2009) in Dental Sciences. In 1994, she obtained her diploma from Vancouver Community College in Dental Hygiene. As a UBC educator, she’s involved with the Periodontics graduate and undergraduate Dental and Dental Hygiene Degree Programs. Chairs the DH Admission and is the DH 4th year coordinator. As a researcher, she focuses on periodontal and implant diseases. She’s published and co-authored in multiple peer-reviewed journals and a conference and webinar speaker for multiple organizations. As a clinician, she practices with a periodontics/prosthodontics specialty team from the year 2000. As part of the dental community, she’s a board member on the Pacific Dental Conference and supports Dental Hygienists and their teams in achieving the highest standard of care, through her company, UpScale Consulting.