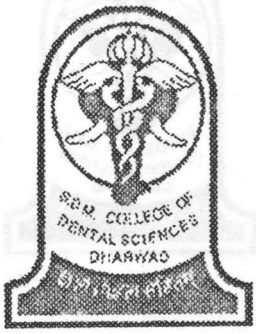
LASERS



Library Dissertation submitted to the Department of Periodontics in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Degree of Master of Dental Surgery in the specialty of Periodontology and Implantology

2002-2005

Dr. Meghna P. Bhatia

Department of Periodontics
S. D. M. College of Dental Sciences and Hospital,
DHARWAD.

In every area of human endeavour, technology has opened the door for new advancement to occur. Much of the progress in medicine over the last few years is due, in large part, to new technological tools made available to clinicians and researchers when a new surgical device, enters the arena there is often skepticism, hesitation, caution and rejection.

LASER is an expanding technological discipline, both in diagnostic and treatment procedures. Lasers are an alternative to conventional surgical systems, stated best by Apfelberg in 1987, lasers are a "New and Different Scalpel".

The word "Laser" is an acronym of the phrase LIGHT AMPLIFICATION BY STIMULATED EMISSION OF RADIATION". Lasers convert electrical energy into intense narrow beam of light. Laser emission can induce structural changes in materials such as crystals, melt materials and fuse atomic particles.

If asked what causes the most anxiety in the dental office, the typical patient undoubtedly would single out the drill i.e. the handpieces, as the most uncomfortable component in dental treatment. Why not then, use this beam of light, instead of drill to cut into gingiva or teeth and make the visit to the dentist as easy as going for haircut.

In first one generation, lasers have moved out of the realm of fantasy and into everyday life. From outerspace and starwars homes to laser printers and copiers in office. Lasers do have a far researching