

A Clinician's Perspective on the EZ Dam Dry Field Isolation System



Dr. Chad Aitken

Dr. Chad Aitken is a general dentist from Red Deer, Alberta, with a practice dedicated to general dentistry. In this interview, we explore how EZ Dam has impacted his practice.

What first caught your interest in EZ Dam? Who uses it in your practice?

With new regulations in regards to covid, I wanted a simple isolation/suction system to make procedures easier and provide as much safety as possible from air-born aerosols. I had looked at other systems, but the ease of use, patient comfort, and price point made EZ Dam an easy choice.

My hygienists and I both use the EZDAM system daily.

What procedures is it used for?

I use it for most restorative work: crowns, bridges, fillings. It helps with the isolation and suction, freeing my assistant to focus on other tasks - or even other patients, if needed. My hygienists use it for scaling and root planning with ultrasonics to minimize aerosols. It is also great for sealants.

What would you say are the most important benefits after having used the system for a while now?

There are many tangible and intangible benefits of this system, but what I like the most is that you get that rubber dam peace of mindwithout the hassles of rubber dam! It saves time, because it allows me to work uninterrupted, no more stop and go... it's all go. I like the fact that I don't have to worry about the tongue, cheek, saliva, etc. It's like I have a virtual 2nd assistant. My assistant can get up to attend to something without hesitation. This is great, because I have an average sized practice, and sometimes I need the resources to be available to handle those everyday unexpected things that pop up. Lastly, I like that I'm providing a better patient experience in regards to comfort, protection, and treatment quality.



What impact has this had on your practice?

It has provided a new tool to increase efficiency and quality, reduce aerosol risks, improve patient comfort and reduce stress overall. It has been very easy to adapt into our workflow and patients have enjoyed the comfort and ease.

Do you have anything negative to say about the system?

At first, it looks intimidating, but it's surprisingly comfortable, once learn how to place it in the mouth. Once the staff knows this, it's easy.

I can't say I use it on every single patient. With my sensitive patients, some like the fact that they have something to bite down on and keep things in place and some don't like it. I can't even get the mirror into their mouth without a gag sometimes! Fortunately, this is a small percentage of my practice. Overall, my hygienists and I use it on most patients throughout the day.

What kind of dentist would benefit from this product?

Honestly everyone. It's not expensive to get into the

product, and at \$2-3 per use it easily justifies itself in time savings. When I find a product that provides a better way to work that impacts my patients comfort, experience, safety and quality of care, I think it's a worthwhile investment. I recommend EZ Dam.

Do you have any experiences with similar products?

I have used other brands of suction/isolation systems before and they were difficult to use, the mouthpieces had many more sizes to manage. I like EZ Dam because I can quickly cut and trim the mouthpiece to fit. Other brands are much more expensive and all parts aren't easy to clean. I would have to disassemble the system, which the staff didn't like. EZ Dam is inexpensive, easy to connect and easy to clean/sterilize. Overall, it's a better solution. That is why i switched.

What is your experience with support as you were learning to use EZ Dam?

My local rep has been awesome. He has been very responsive to any questions or concerns and any orders have been taken care of quickly. Thank you. ■