

Overview



The Dale Scrape-n-Suction Tongue Cleaner is the only product on the market that easily provides effective scraping and suction clearing the tongue thick biofilm, thereby removing bacteria and toxins and possibly reducing the likelihood of VAP or other respiratory infections in the ICU ventilator patient. The Cleaner enhances overall oral care.

Background

Oral care plays a crucial role in the acutely ill patient population as the oral cavity is a significant source of bacterial colonization. Oral bacteria may lead to VAP (ventilator associated pneumonia) or other respiratory infection.

The current oral care procedure occurs at least every 12 hours. It consists of:

1. Oral suction with a Yankauer.
2. Use a toothbrush attached to suction. Chlorhexidine liquid or other oral rinse is used.
3. Oral suction with Yankauer again.

Problem:

Acutely ill patients have a thickened tongue biofilm (bacterial coating).

The tongue is currently not suction scraped in the ICU patient as no product to do so currently exists. Bacterial colonization on the tongue may lead to VAP or other respiratory infection. A toothbrush alone is not very effective at removing thick tongue biofilm.

Solution:

The clinician inspired **Dale Scrape-n-Suction Tongue Cleaner** is designed to remove bacteria and toxins found in the tongue's biofilm, primarily in mechanically ventilated patients.

After standard oral care, the device would be used to clean the tongue.



Application Instructions

Scrape-n-Suction Tongue Cleaner

For best results, use immediately after standard oral care.

1. Attach the barbed end of the Cleaner to the suction tubing.
2. Set suction at recommended level of 100mmHg. Increase suction level as needed to remove thick or encrusted biofilm. Do not exceed 150 mmHg.
3. Gently place the head of the Cleaner, near the back of the tongue.
4. Gradually, while applying light pressure, draw the Cleaner towards the tip of the tongue, removing the biofilm.
5. Repeat steps 3 & 4 until all areas of the tongue have been cleaned.
6. Discard Cleaner after use.

Dale
Medical Products

**Scrape-n-Suction™
Tongue Cleaner**

Product Description
Removes bacteria and toxins in the tongue's biofilm.



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For single patient use. Disposable.
For an application video please visit www.dalemed.com
Dale medical products are available from your preferred hospital/medical supply dealer.
Not made with natural rubber latex.
Patent www.dalemed.com/patents
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Features

Head:

- Unique compact size with a frontal end curve.
- Provides comfortable insertion in mouth even in small areas.
- Fits into an oral cavity that may also be occupied by an ET (endotracheal) tube.
- Provides for effective scraping of thick and encrusted biofilm on tongue.
- Features an extra large suction lumen.



Scraping:

- Tongue scraping removes more biofilm than toothbrushing alone.
- Scraping may help prevent VAP or other respiratory infections thereby improving patient outcome.
- Scraping may reduce overall secretions and thereby reduce Yankauer suctioning.

Length:

- Able to reach near the back of tongue. Same length as many ICU toothbrushes.

Handle:

- Textured handle for easy gripping even with gloved hand.

Suction connector:

- Features a barbed end that easily and firmly connects to suction tubing.

Suction:

- Able to clear thick secretions and biofilm.
- Suction is strong but not overly so and is easy to manage by adjusting the level of suction at the wall.

SCRAPE - N - SUCTION™ TONGUE CLEANER

- Common retail tongue scrapers do not feature suction.
- Provides sanitary removal of biofilm which has been scraped off the tongue.

Material:

- The high impact plastic (polycarbonate) resists cracking.

Rigidity:

- Rigidity (not flexing) is needed to scrape/clean effectively. Has same rigidity as a Yankauer.

Translucent:

- For easy visualization of biofilm removal.

One-piece:

- Simple design. No assembly needed.

Usage:

- Oral care is administered at least every 12 hours.

Easy to use:

- Design is intuitive.

Effective:

- Enhances overall oral care.

Clean, Ready to Use

Single procedure use, disposable.

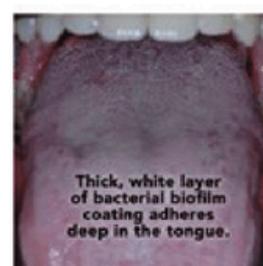
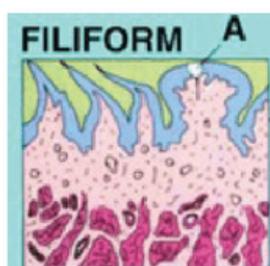
Not made with natural rubber latex. DEHP Free.

Patent pending.

Tongue Biofilm

Biofilm is the accumulation of bacteria and exfoliated cells from the filiform papillae which are the pointed threadlike projections distributed over the tongue.

Biofilm is a thick, viscous white, yellow or tan-colored coating that accumulates on the surface of the tongue.



The large surface area of the tongue along with the filiform papillae create the perfect environment for microorganisms to thrive. When food particles, bacteria and saliva become lodged between the filiform papillae, the tongue coating becomes thickened (Seerangaiyan et al., 2018).

Between 60 and 80% of bacteria found in the oral cavity may be found in the biofilm coating on the dorsum surface of the tongue (Rhyn et al., 2020).

Healthy Individuals

The surface of the tongue on a healthy individual carries 39 prominent species or strains including, veillonella, prevotella and certain streptococcus (Bordas et al., 2008).

In a healthy individual the tongue is mechanically cleansed by means of movement, in both swallowing and chewing, as well as saliva production and consumption of fibrous foods, which results in a normal thin tongue coating.

ICU Patients

When an individual is ill many of these natural cleansing mechanisms are not being exercised causing thickening of the tongue coating. This biofilm contains bacteria and toxins which may contribute to VAP or other respiratory infection.

The Dale Scrape-n-Suction Tongue Cleaner effectively removes thick encrusted tongue biofilm.