Introducing the IM3® Vet-Tome

IM3® Dental Limited
Main Office +353 (0) 1 6911277 | UK Direct Number +44 (0) 1423 224297
e sales@im3dental.com | www.im3vet.com
**Introduction**

iM3 is excited to announce the launch of the Vet-Tome, a veterinary specific automated periotome with foot pedal operation that offers precise tooth extraction with minimal or no alveolar bone loss and less trauma allowing quicker healing to the surgical site. The electric Vet-Tome uses replaceable ultra-thin stainless steel tips/blades coupled with the mechanical in-and-out action generated by the handpiece to cut the periodontal ligament similar to a Luxator (hand instrument). This mechanical action and thin flexible blade allows easy insertion into the periodontal ligament (PDL) and alveolus (tooth socket) coupled with the side to side movement by the operator cutting the PDL. The Vet-Tome will not work for periodontal ligaments that are mineralized (advanced tooth resorption), i.e. it won’t go through mineral/bone, but it does an excellent job on the canine teeth (and others) which can be very hard, especially feline mandibular canine teeth which can lead to jaw fracture at the synthesis.

Please note, the Vet-Tome is not a replacement for good extraction technique and flap preparation, but certainly a welcome addition to any veterinary clinic preforming routine extractions.

**How To Use**

Dr. Holmstrom DVM DAVDC has provided the following feedback on the Vet-Tome.

The Vet-Tome can be used on any tooth. It is an easy, less traumatic approach, which allows quicker healing to the surgical site.

Power setting should be set to 2-3 for cats and small dogs then increase power per patient/per tooth size. Tip insertion and movement does not have to be as aggressive in cats and small dogs.

Dr. Holmstrom would advise not to perform crown amputations when using the vet tome for extractions. He said he could see it being a struggle and more of a challenge to extract the root tips by not having the crown to grasp.

**Technique:**

Aim at the desired tooth at a perpendicular angle then allow the tip to follow the root parallel to the root. The larger tip can be used first to create a gap, then insert the thinner blade to go deeper. Advance the tip in a “saw like” or back and forth motion because the tip can become stuck. Not much pressure is needed. The weight of the handle + “saw like motion” allows the tip to advance into the ligament space and the sides of the tip cut the periodontal ligament.
Moving the handpiece in a “saw-like” back and forth (side to side) motion is correct vs “up and down” (in and out) motion which is incorrect. Moving the handpiece up and down will make your tip move up and down as well, which can bend the tip and twist it.

**Servicing and Tip wear**

Tips may need to be replaced. Dr. Holmstrom states that he has not replaced his tip during the time he has owned it. He also has not had to replace any parts or performed maintenance on his machine, obviously this will depend on the individual operator.

**Please note**

The handle does get warm after extended use, avoid using the Vet-Tome continuously for long periods. There is an obvious noise change when inserting tip into ligament space. Dr. Holmstrom has not found noise association with hitting bone vs ligament space to be any issue or concern.

**Please go to our YouTube Channel to see a demonstration video on how the Vet Tome will aid in tooth extractions.** Simply search iM3 Direct on YouTube.

* I love my Vet-Tome! 

*My extractions are more elegant and less stressful. With the aid of a thin blade the Vet-Tome cuts the periodontal ligament allowing me to get most teeth out with minimal trauma.*  

* Jean Battig DVM, DAVDC *  

Animal Dental Clinic