

SOLEA ALL-TISSUE-LASER: STREAMLINING THE DIGITAL WORKFLOW

No one likes to wait. Not you, and certainly not your patients, especially when waiting involves receiving an injection of anesthetic and sitting in a dentist's chair while it takes effect, or a delay of weeks to allow healing of a surgical site. Digital workflows have turned same-day dentistry into reality for procedures that were once multi-visit processes, but the biology involved in injectable anesthesia and tissue healing remains inescapable.

Convergent Dental's Solea All-Tissue Laser offers a solution.

STREAMLINED WORKFLOWS

By streamlining procedures and refining tissue removal, Solea gives you more control over both your schedule and the quality of care you provide.

Ways in which Solea can merge seamlessly into your digital workflow include:

- **Crown preparation.** Solea's precise tissue removal allows you to create smooth, clear, separate margins for scanning faster than cords and with more predictable results.
- **Esthetic dentistry.** Crown lengthening can be performed using Solea as part of same-day esthetic enhancements such as veneers.
- **Implant dentistry.** With Solea, the gingiva can be contoured for a perfect emergence profile on the same day as implant surgery, allowing for an immediate scan rather than waiting weeks for the site to heal.

Drs. Mitch Vander Baan and Alexander Ash recently shared their experiences with the Solea All-Tissue Laser, including integration with their digital dentistry workflows.





Alexander Ash, DDS, based in Studio City, California, has been in practice for 20 years. Now in his fourth year of using his Solea laser, he promotes his full suite of laser dentistry services on his website, laserdentistry.com.

WHAT INSPIRED YOU TO INVEST IN A SOLEA LASER?

I was looking into technology for soft-tissue management. I spent a number of years researching types of lasers and diodes, and CO2 lasers are the best for dentistry, the most advanced.

HOW WAS THE TRAINING AND INTEGRATION PROCESS?

It was very smooth. Once you get a Solea, you go through the training, and within a week, you have the hang of it. Convergent is great about sending people to train you and getting you on board. If you can do dentistry, learning the laser is very easy.

WHAT IMPACT HAS SOLEA HAD ON YOUR DIGITAL WORKFLOW?

Solea gives me excellent outcomes for my digital scans. When I'm prepping teeth for crowns, inlays, and onlays, I never need to pack cord anymore because the laser, in a very clean, crisp manner, allows me to separate the gingival tissue from the tooth prep margins. When I scan the prepped margins, they appear perfect, so my labs have no issue in fabricating prosthetics. It allows me to move quicker and efficiently through each procedure.

The impact Solea has on implant cases is also significant. I can use Solea in many patients without any anesthetic for second-stage surgery. Also, Solea allows us to recontour gingival tissue to have the perfect emergence profile for the implant. This not only gives us the best esthetic result, it also allows us to do the scan the same day as the surgery. So Solea improves the outcome and delivery time.

WHAT DO PATIENTS THINK ABOUT IT?

They're blown away. Especially the older patients and my anxiety patients, they're really enthused about it.



After starting his career as an Army dentist, Mitch Vander Baan, DDS, became the owner of his Grand Rapids, Michigan, practice in 2021. In April 2025, he acquired a Solea laser as part of a move toward expanding services and performing more high-end cosmetic dentistry.

WHAT INSPIRED YOU TO INVEST IN A SOLEA LASER?

I was transitioning to more of a fee-for-service practice, focusing on doing more for patients. We're a high-tech office. I like to use things that make the patient experience and my experience as a provider better, so it was always on my radar.

HOW WAS THE TRAINING AND INTEGRATION PROCESS?

The training and support is phenomenal. Obviously, there's a learning curve. But it builds. You build the blocks, and eventually you have a sturdy foundation of things you didn't think you could do before, that you now have confidence to do great.

You also form bonds with other Solea dentists. The community and the support from the company and other Solea providers is probably the best I've seen.

SERVICE EXPANSION

Solea's versatility can open doors to new services that meet more of your patients' needs.

Solea Perioguide has been demonstrated to reduce periodontal pocket depths by up to 7 mm, offering a minimally invasive solution for even severe periodontitis cases that might otherwise be referred.

Solea Sleep is a nonsurgical application that can relieve snoring by tightening the tissues of the soft palate.

WHAT IMPACT HAS SOLEA HAD ON YOUR WORKFLOW?

Solea has greatly impacted my indirect restoration workflow with crowns and veneers. I can now use the laser to “sculpt” away extra gum tissue or go deeper than before to save teeth, with almost no bleeding or contamination during these procedures! I also use the laser to uncover implants, remove extra bone if required, and reshape the tissue space for implants, crowns and profiles to achieve more optimal results.

WHAT DO PATIENTS THINK ABOUT IT?

It's a great practice builder. Patients don't understand how good your filling is, but they do understand how you make them feel. They remember you shaped their gum with just a little numbing jelly, or that you did a filling without giving them a shot. Those are things they celebrate and tell other people about.

Solea has been a game changer in decreasing patient barriers by providing a better experience. It not only makes my life easier, but most importantly, it gets patients to a healthier place they might not have gone with some of the conventional ways of doing dentistry. ●