

61-37 Jet Shield (Project 99-31) (1/01)

The Jet Shield is a device that is attached to the end of a Dentsply air polishing tip and the existing dental unit suction system for the purpose of reducing aerosols during treatment. The device consists of rubber suction tubing, rubber tubing that fits the end of the polishing tip (Jet Shield Assembly), and clips for holding the tubing together. At the end of the Jet Shield Assembly, a round, rubber cup surrounds the air polishing tip. As the air polisher sprays powder against the tooth, the powder is suctioned back through the rubber cup, purportedly reducing the amount of powder aerosol in the dental treatment room. Five of the six parts of the Jet Shield are re-usable and should be disinfected between patients. The only disposable part is the Jet Shield Assembly. Instructions for both assembly and clinician use are provided with the product.



Manufacturer:

Dentsply Preventive Care
1301 Smile Way
P.O. Box 7807
York, PA 17404-0807
(800) 989-8826
(717) 767-8502
(800) 278-4344 FAX
www.prevent.dentsply.com

Retail Price:

\$84.60 (item number 80579)

Government Price:

\$55.28 (item number as listed above)

ADVANTAGES:

- + Clinical users believed the device was effective in reducing aerosols.
- + Jet Shield Assembly is disposable, which enhances infection control.
- + Minimal time is required for set-up/break-down.
- + Easy to replace after initial set-up.

DISADVANTAGES:

- Adds cost to procedure (\$0.55).
- Decreases visibility of treatment area during use.
- Does not effectively suction all water from treatment area.
- Precludes the simultaneous use of low volume saliva ejector.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS:

Reducing contaminated aerosols in the dental treatment room is one way of helping to prevent potential staff and patient contamination. The Jet Shield is not meant to take the place of high- or low-volume suction, but is intended to be used as an adjunct in removing the abrasive powder aerosol generated during air polishing procedures. During this evaluation, all the clinical users gave the Jet Shield a favorable rating for its ability to reduce aerosols. The device requires minimal time for installation and disposal, however there is an added cost when using it. The **Jet Shield** is rated **Acceptable** for use by federal dental services.