



South Eastern Health  
and Social Care Trust

Northern Ireland Regional Maxillofacial Service

The Ulster Hospital, Dundonald, Belfast

Mr Stuart Watkins  
Hilotech UK Ltd  
92 Portland Road  
HOVE  
EAST SUSSEX BN3 5DN

14 January 2010

Dear Stuart,

I am just writing to bring you up to date on our experience with the Hilotherapy system

As you know we have been using Hilotherapy since late September of 2009 and have been very impressed with the performance of the system to date

Initially we used the device for the treatment of patients undergoing orthognathic surgery. To date we have treated 24 patients, most having bimaxillary osteotomies.

The patients have all reported that the masks provide considerable relief from the inevitable discomfort, and in many cases pain, following this surgery. They are frequently reluctant to allow us to take the masks off after 24 hours.

The nursing staff on the wards report that the patients demands for analgesia and other attention is significantly reduced when compared to previous experience prior to the introduction of the treatment. This is confirmed by retrospective audit of patient drug records.



It is our clinical impression that there is a significant reduction in post operative swelling in our patients. This includes the maxillary area, which is quite well covered by the masks designed for mandibular use. It is, of course, very difficult to validate subjective impressions, but we are in the process of undertaking an objective study incorporating 3D photographic assessment of volume change. Initial results are promising. We will need about a year to recruit and follow up enough patients to give good statistical data to confirm our impressions of the effectiveness of the treatment.

In addition to using the treatment for orthognathic patients it has proved useful in the management of routine dentoalveolar surgery, such as the removal of difficult wisdom teeth.

We have also used the system pre-operatively for patients with mandibular fractures to control pain and reduce swelling, and in patients with spreading infection, where it has proved very helpful in controlling pain, although we do not believe it has much effect on swelling in these cases.

In summary, our experience with this new treatment has been very positive and we look forward to being able to continue to provide Hilotherapy for our patients in whom it is indicated.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter Ramsay-Baggs', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Peter Ramsay-Baggs

MB BCh BAO BDS FFD RCSI FDS RCS FRCS(Ed)

Consultant Oral & Maxillofacial Surgeon