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Laser irradiation and pulp space sterilization: Where are we now?

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50 years have passed since the first laser irradiation of hard dental tissues. Over this time, our knowledge on lasers and most importantly, on laser-tissue interactions has greatly expanded. In the 21st Century, we are able to adopt this technology in several fields of dentistry, among them, Endodontics. In this presentation, the different wavelengths of laser irradiation will be presented, and their mode of bactericidal action will be discussed. This energy (under the correct parameters) can augment our efforts to eliminate the bacterial load of the pulp space, thus being a useful tool in the endodontic armamentarium.

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