

## AT-HOME TOOTH BLEACHING, STATE-OF-ART 2001

Today clinicians can offer many options to patients desiring to lighten their teeth. This procedure can be accomplished from dentists or over-the-counter (OTC). All products currently available & tested by CRA lighten teeth (See Apr. '00 & Sep that all products lighten teeth is not surprising since all use the same hydrogen peroxide (HP) active ingredient. Differences are confused by attempts of companies to make similar products appear different. Purpose of this report is to identify the same hydrogen peroxide.

## 1. CRA CLINICAL & LAB TESTS ON 23 POPULAR AT-HOME BLEACHING PRODUCTS



SUMMARY OF GRADED PORTIONS OF CHART (Shaded Columns A-H) All 23 products tested lightened teeth about

- A. <u>COST</u> varies over wide range (78¢ \$3.54 per ml & \$20.00 \$69.40 per kit). Colgate Platinum Daytime has lowest cost / ml & Crest Whitestrips has lowest cost / kit.
- B. TOOTH COLOR CHANGE by 23 products tested was comparable using the regimen recommended in directions for each product. Brand of bleach was not a significant variable, but patient was. Stains of age that were darker initially generally showed most change. Patients seemed to have a threshold for the amount of lightening possible quickly & easily. After that point, further lightening was possible, but it occurred more slowly.
- C. <u>DECREASE IN ACTIVE INGREDIENT DURING USE</u> was relatively rapid with all products releasing 50% of their active ingredient within 20-30 minutes after bleach was inserted into oral cavity. To gain maximum whitening, bleach needs replenishment about every 30-60 minutes.
- D. <u>DIRECTIONS</u> rated best included instructions for: dentist, tray fabrication, patient, & step-by-step pictures.