

TAP system overview

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INTRODUCTION

Here is a brief overview of history of Airway Management and TAP system

Step 1 — Dr. Thornton



- Dr. W. Keith Thornton is a 3rd generation dentist who now limits his practice to the treatment of sleep disordered breathing, airway management during anesthesia, and temporomandibular disorders. He has over 75 US and foreign patents for oral appliances, CPAP masks, and combination devices for the treatment of sleep-disordered breathing.

 [Nice Bio from Dental Sleep Practice](#)

- In 1993, Dr. Thornton was introduced to a surgical treatment for OSA. the UPPP or "roto-rooter" of surgeries. This prompted him to develop his own treatment based on an oral appliance that positions the mandible forward. Preventing the soft tissues from collapsing in the airway.
- His TAP appliance (the Thornton Adjustable Positioner) was born. Unlike the other devices on the time, the TAP could be adjusted, enabling titration in a sleep lab.
- Back in the 1990s, only a few dentists were collaborating with sleep medicine specialists to fit their patients with oral appliances. The potential for helping millions of OSA sufferers drove him to push forward.

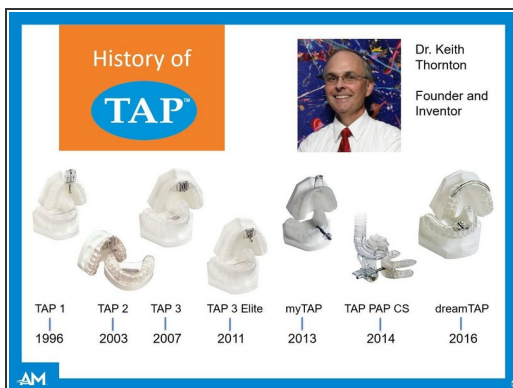
- Fast forward to today: The TAP appliances are the most studied and popular devices available. With over 37 peer reviewed studies, it has been documented that the TAP appliances are highly effective for treating the entire range of sleep disordered breathing. They are safe, simple and work.
- Dr. Thornton and his dental sleep medicine colleagues have proven the oral appliance therapy not only works, but patients use the devices.
- The treatment is becoming available to more and more of the millions of patients around the world. This is fulfilling Dr. Thornton's vision quest and the world is a better place because of his determination to help his patients.

Step 2 — History



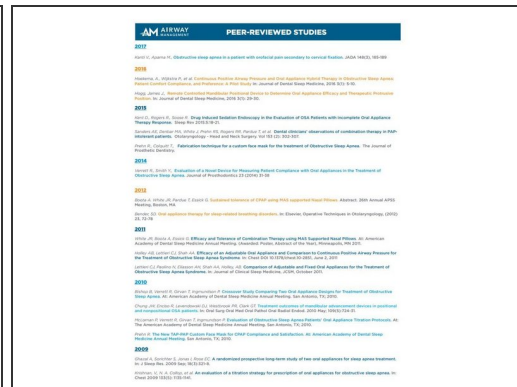
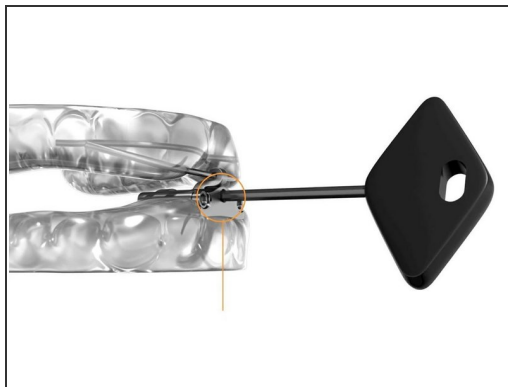
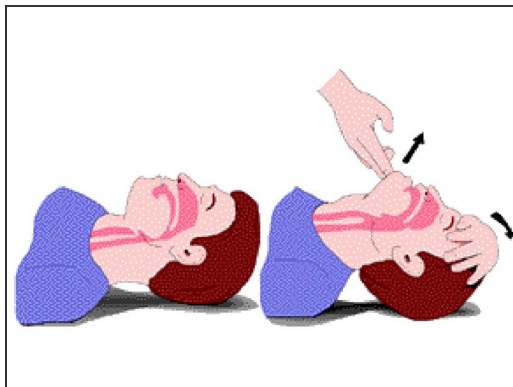
- Founded in 1996, Airway Management is one of the oldest names in Dental Sleep Medicine. AMI is the company behind the TAP brand.
- Owned and Operated by Dr. Keith Thornton and family. Part of the success, is that the inventor and founder still is fully active in the company. The desire to improve the product line and break new ground for Dental Sleep Medicine is alive and well.
- **CEO - Charles Collins** Charles has been with AMI since 2003. His role now is Chief Executive Officer, responsible for over all management of the company. His personal relationship with Dr. Thornton, his deep knowledge of dental sleep medicine and broad business management experience enables him to guide the company now and in the future.
- Airway Management is a Medical Device Manufacturer.
 - **ISO 13485** - This is the internationally recognized standard for manufacturing medical devices. The FDA good manufacturing practices are based on this standard. AMI has been certified since 2013 to this standard.
 - **FDA** - All our products are cleared by the FDA under the 510k program. We are also frequently audited by the FDA to confirm compliance.
 - **Medicare** - All our custom devices are approved for reimbursement by Medicare under the EO486 code. These include devices built by our Authorized Dental Laboratory partners.
 - **Authorized Partners** - To allow the TAP devices to be easily available, we work with over 300 dental laboratories around the world to build the devices for their clients.

Step 3 — Product History



- **1996 - TAP 1** - The original TAP appliance. This excellent device is still available today. Works great and easy to adjust with a large knob.
- **2003 - TAP 2** - The TAP 2 is now discontinued. By it was an important evolutionary device that paved the way for the TAP 3
- **2007 - TAP 3** - This device is still available and popular. Features a 5mm advancement range and limited lateral excursion.
- **2011 - TAP 3 Elite** - Discontinued in 2016. This device added 3 hooks to increase the protrusion range to 15mm.
- **2013 - myTAP** - pictured here, it is a revolutionary device that allows for chairside delivery. Just heat up the trays and form in the mouth.
- **2014 - TAP PAP CS** - This add-on mask extends the range for a TAP device to include severe OSA. Great for non-compliant CPAP patients.
- **2016 - dreamTAP** - The 5th generation continues the evolution of the TAP appliance. 15mm protrusion range, 10mm lateral excursion and moves the Cr-Co hardware out of the tongue box. It's a winner!
- **2019 - AccuTherm Trays** - Thin, remoldable trays are designed for final fit in the dental practice. No hand piece needed - just hot water for a perfect fit everytime.

Step 4 — TAP Fundamentals



- **Single Point Adjustment** - Simple and allows patients to be part of the solution. Eliminates the concern of inducing TMD that can happen with bi-lateral devices, like ... all the rest.
- **20 years of peer review studies** - The most of any device by a long ways. The TAP devices unequivocally work!
 - 37 and counting - ([Click Here to see](#))
- All Products approved for Medicare reimbursement under EO486
- All Products cleared by the FDA with a 510k
- All hardware made in the USA
- Produced in our ISO 13485 certified facility in Texas.

Step 5 — TAP Clinical Advantages



- **Worry Free Treatment Plan** - 25 years of success, 500,000 appliances delivered and over 35 peer reviewed studies
 - It works
- **Worry Free Bites** - with 15 mm of protrusion range, starting point is like hitting the broad side of a barn. Always works. With 10 mm of lateral excursion and a single point, midline is never off. It finds the best position
- **Worry Free Impressions** - Digital or Analog? Whatever works best for you. Pulls or distortions? Accutherm Trays and some hot water fix all issues.
- **Worry Free Seating** - Need to adjust for fit. Just soften in hot water. No handpiece needed. Retention worries? ThermAcryl line trays "stick" the seating.
- **Cash Flow** - All TAPs are eligible for Medicare reimbursement under E0486. Turn Around time about a week with most labs
- **Profitability** - Patients can easily advance the protrusion. Saves valuable chairtime and improves compliance. Can reline for any new dental work.
- **Training the Staff** - Use www.TAP.wiki for all clinical training. It's all in here!

Step 6 — Clients



- 150 + Authorized Lab Partners in North America
- Exclusive supplier to the US Air Force
- Supplier to Major Hospitals
- Supplier to Major Dental Distributors
- Supplier to top DME suppliers
- #1 custom oral appliance in Dental Sleep Medicine