

Technology Guide



Computers in the Treatment Rooms

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Judy the Juggler works the front desk.

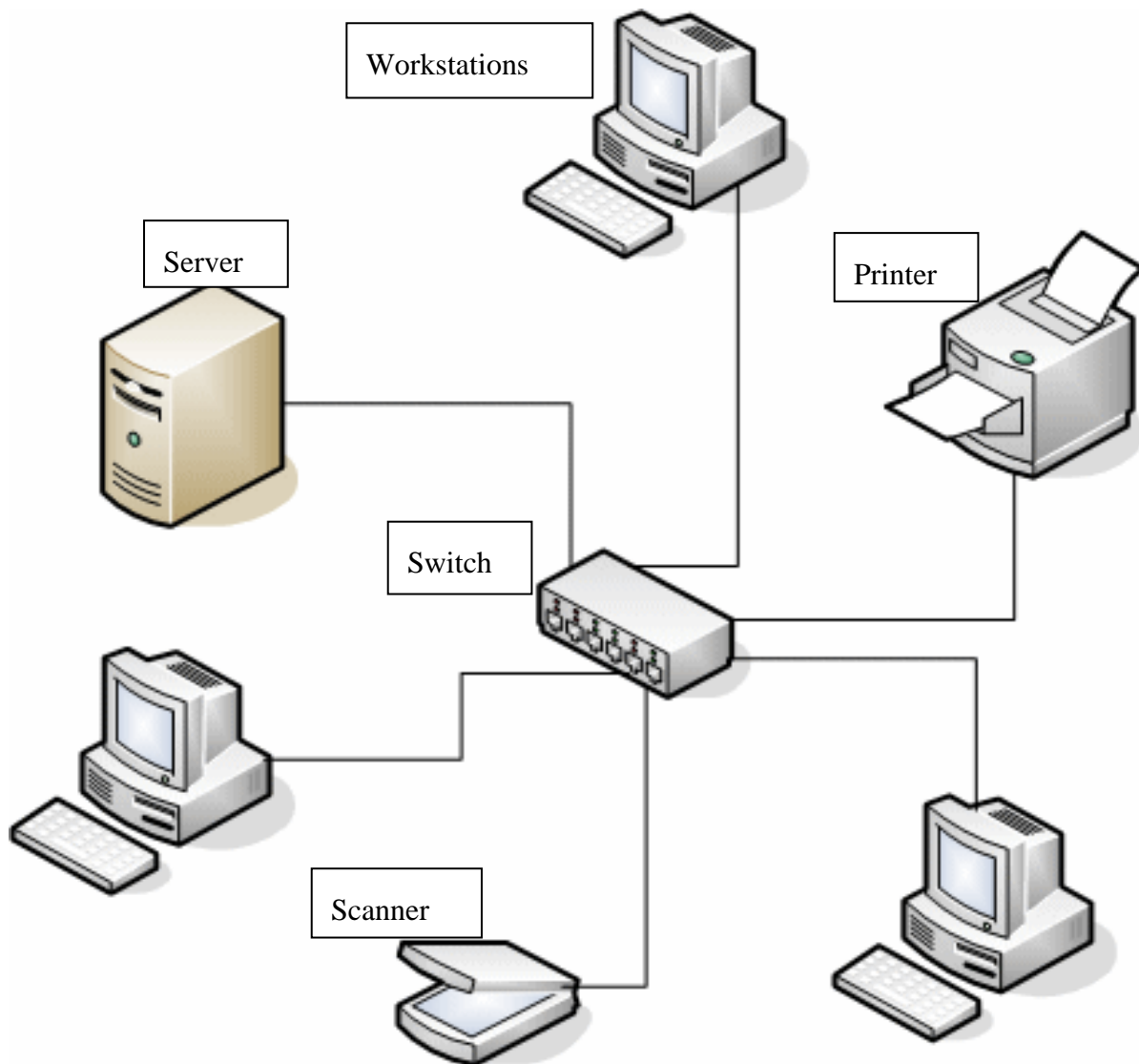
How many items can she keep in the air at one time? What will my insurance pay? Confirm tomorrow's patients. Call the lab. Is that covered by my plan? When are my kids due next? I need to speak to the doctor. Can I put this on my card? I already told you I can't come in on Tuesdays. We are out of toner! Collection calls. Call in a refill on the pain pills. Pull the charts for tomorrow. When is my next appointment? Can I make payments on this? Check with the periodontist. Fill out these forms. Hold Please!

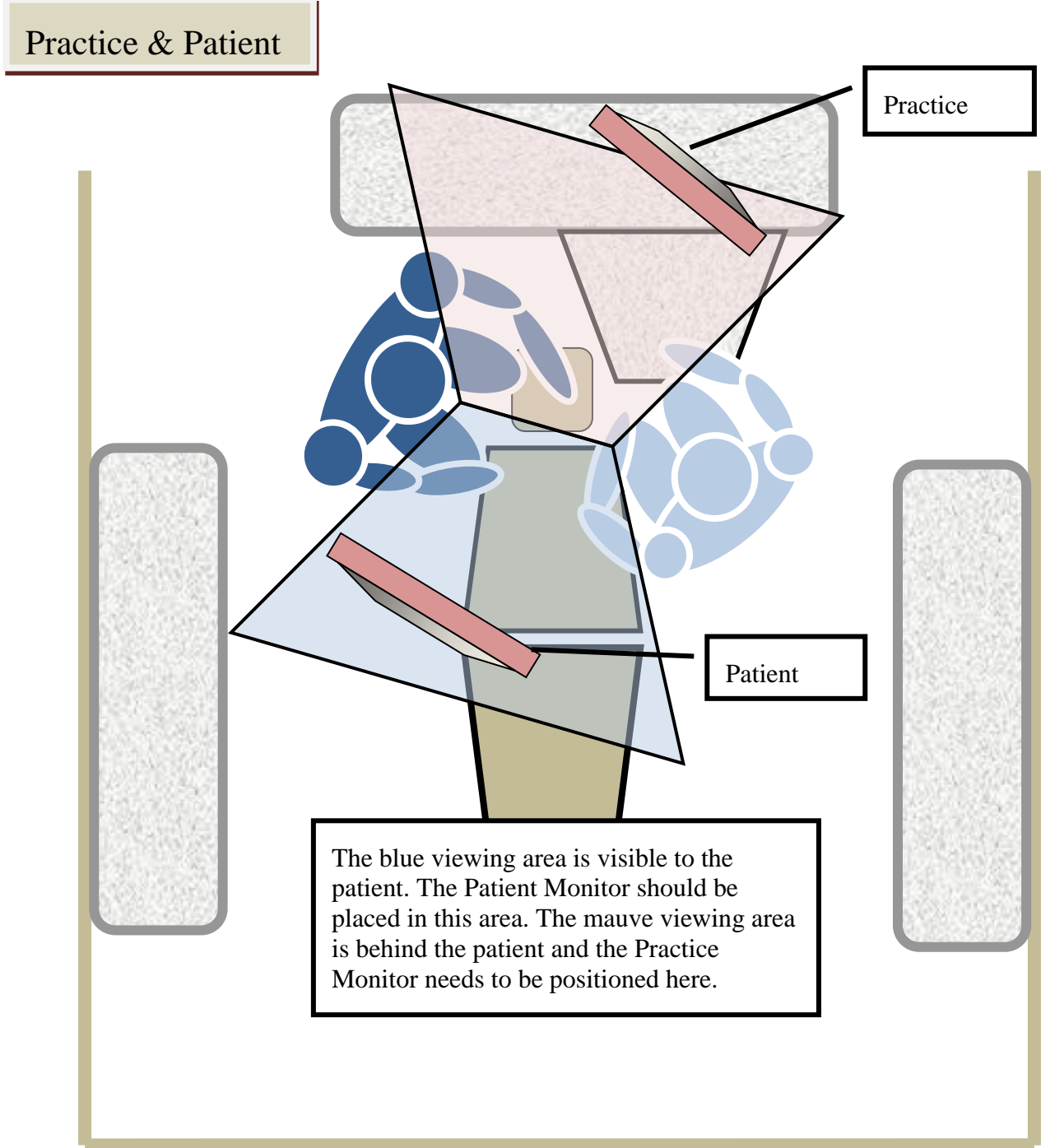
Traditionally the front desk is the lynch pin of the practice. All communications and

the books you have on the shelves. The more shelves you have the more storage you have. The RAM memory is the books you have taken off the shelf and are currently reading. RAM is like your desk, the bigger the desk the more books you can keep open on it.

Networks

A network is two or more computers hooked together to share data. There are two types of computers in a network, file servers and workstations (or clients). There is one server; it is the main computer. All the data is stored in the server and the workstations all connect to it through a switch.





Some things seen on the computer monitor are patient items. Those are things we want the patient to see, their own chart, x-rays, photos or patient education. Other information should not be seen. That would include another patient's chart or even the daily schedule. That is practice information.

Accessories to the Rescue.

There are many vendors who provide computer cable and design accessories that can help you keep things neat clean and professional. Here is a list of the kinds of accessories you may need in the dental treatment rooms. A list of vendors follows.

Tower (CPU) Holders

If you do not have a well ventilated cupboard for the CPU do not put it on the floor; get a hanger.



Keyboard and Mouse Drawers

Ideally you want to hide the keyboard away from the overspray work area yet keep it close when needed. A drawer is an ideal way to do this.



Monitor Supports

With the rise of the lightweight flat panel monitors you can easily place a monitor almost anywhere. There are supports designed for the wall, the ceiling, the desk top and the light pole. Remember you will need cable and power access as well.



Cable Management

There are all kinds of wire wrappers and raceways that can be used to hide cables and keep them organized.

