3 Steps to Safe Water

Getting Started with BluTab

BluTab® is trusted by top dental professionals across the world because, simply put, it works. Follow this step-by-step guide and start using BluTab effectively to maintain safe waterlines.

**ONE: SHOCK FIRST**

Often mistaken as unnecessary, shocking your dental unit waterlines is required for every water treatment protocol to be effective. Shocking utilizes a stronger chemical to completely rid your lines of contaminants and enables low-level anti-microbial products like BluTab to work most effectively. Complete shocking directions are on the back of this page.

**When Should You Shock:**
- Before first beginning a treatment protocol or when changing treatment products.
- At least every quarter (90 days).
- When your waterline test reveals a contamination level of 200 CFU/mL or more.
- For more information, visit ProEdgeDental.com/Shock.

After completing the shock treatment, continue your daily BluTab protocol. When selecting a shock treatment, always follow your dental equipment manufacturer’s instructions.

**TWO: TREAT WITH BLUTAB**

BluTab Waterline Maintenance Tablets are specially formulated to control contamination in dental unit waterlines by reducing and inhibiting re-growth of bacteria. They are designed to be continuously present in your waterline system to ensure safety.

**How To Use BluTab:**
- Completely empty your dental unit water bottle.
- Place the tablet or tablets in the empty bottle every time you need to refill your chair’s water.
- Fill your water bottles and reconnect to the dental unit. The tablet will effervesce and dissolve in a few minutes. (Note: BluTab is highly effective with tap water - Distilled water is not necessary).

Each BluTab may be left in the waterlines overnight and for extended periods of non-use. Use water solution until it is expended or up to 28 days. It is not necessary to purge lines overnight. Continue to use BluTab every day or every bottle refill.

**THREE: REGULARLY TEST**

Regular clinical monitoring of your waterline safety is the only way to ensure that treatment procedures are performed correctly and that your water exceeds the standard for safety (< 500 CFU/mL).

If a line fails during testing, initiate an immediate shock, confirm that maintenance procedures are being followed, and retest as soon as possible. If your test shows microbial counts in the caution range (200 to 500 CFU/mL), shock within one week and continue regular testing.

**How often should I test?**
- Test your waterlines every month.
- Once passing results are consistent, test quarterly.

Following this BluTab guide ensures your waterlines are safe and your patients and practice is protected.
How to Shock Your Waterlines Using Diluted Bleach:

**STEP 1: CREATE BLEACH-WATER SOLUTION**

- Detach your chair’s water bottle.
- Add a small amount of bleach based on your bottle size and bleach product concentration (See tables below). Fill the rest of the bottle with water.

**STEP 2: RE-ATTACH YOUR BOTTLE TO THE UNIT**

**STEP 3: RUN BLEACH INTO EACH LINE**

- **Air-Water Syringe**
  - Run each A/W Syringe for 10 seconds or until you smell the bleach flow out the spout or you notice the “slippery” feel of the bleach. The bleach is now in the lines.
  - Set your timer for 10 minutes.

- **High & Slow Speed Lines**
  - Remove each handpiece from the end of the line.
  - Place the handpiece connection into a sink, cup, or bucket.
  - Switch the “flush” toggle (or step on the reostat) for a few seconds until you can smell the bleach at the handpiece connection.
  - Repeat this procedure at every handpiece line, including slow speed handpieces.
  - If no water flows through your slow speed lines, shocking these lines is not necessary.

- **Ultrasonic Scalers**
  - If you have an ultrasonic scaler in this operatory, run the scaler until you smell the bleach at the scaler tip.

**STEP 4: MONITOR YOUR TIMER**

- Leave bleach in each line for 10 minutes and NEVER MORE than 15 minutes.
- After 10 minutes per line, disconnect the water bottles and dump the remaining solution into the sink. Do not send the bleach solution through evacuation lines.
- Refill water bottles with warm water and flush the lines for 1-3 minutes or until the remaining bleach odor disappears.

---

**KNOW BEFORE YOUR SHOCK**

- **DO NOT** flush bleach into any vacuum or drain system that contains an amalgam separator.
- **DO NOT** leave bleach or sodium hypochlorite in your waterlines for more than 10 minutes.
- **DO** wear gloves and protective eye-wear.

**WHEN SHOULD I SHOCK?**

- Before first beginning a treatment protocol or when changing treatment products.
- At least every quarter (90 days).
- When your waterline test reveals a contamination level of 200 CFU/mL or more.

**WHY DO I NEED TO SHOCK?**

Our lab continues to discover just how important this part of the treatment process is to ensuring your lines are clean and safe. Biofilm works hard to survive and spread. Periodically, a more powerful chemical agent is necessary to clear your line of any remaining bacteria to ensure any treatment product can be effective. Practices that shock early and often routinely receive passing water tests.

**IS BLEACH SAFE FOR EQUIPMENT?**

Several manufacturers (including Midmark, DCI International, DentalEZ, DENTSPLY Cavitron, and Proma) have authorized weekly or daily water system treatment with a solution of bleach. Sterilex ULTRA® is an effective alternative, but will require leaving it in your waterlines overnight.

Questions?
Call our team at 888.843.3343 or visit ProEdgeDental.com