

# Is your water safe?

Dental unit waterlines are prone to become breeding grounds for biofilm and bacteria without the intervention of effective maintenance.<sup>1</sup>



## By the Numbers

**5 Days**

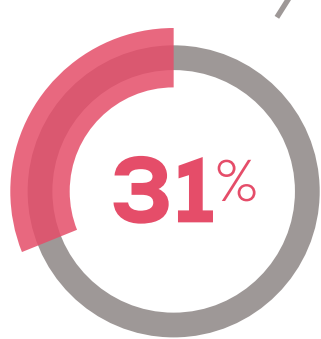
Is all it takes for microbial counts to reach up to **200,000** colony-forming units (CFU)/mL after the installation of new dental unit waterlines<sup>1</sup>

**500** CFU/mL

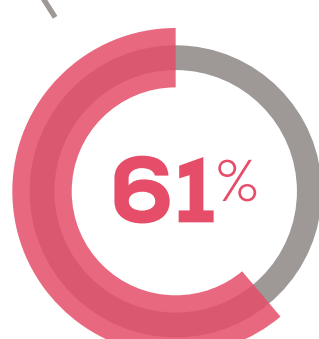
Of heterotrophic bacteria is the maximum allowable for safe water in non-surgical dental procedures, according to CDC guidelines<sup>2,3</sup>

**22,000**

Dental unit waterlines were examined in a treatment efficacy study<sup>4</sup>



Of treated water lines contained more than the CDC-recommended maximum of 500 CFU/mL<sup>4</sup>



Of studied practices contained at least one failed waterline<sup>4</sup>



## The Danger

Contaminated waterlines can lead to waterborne infections, devastating harm to patients and damaging lawsuits.<sup>4,5</sup> Help prevent contamination and safeguard patient health with a consistent waterline maintenance protocol.



## 4 Keys to Effective Waterline Maintenance<sup>1,3-7</sup>



### 1. DAILY ROUTINE FLUSHING

Discharge water and air at the beginning and end of each day, as well as between patients for 30 seconds, to help remove stagnant water and debris and reduce the microbial load.



### 3. REGULAR WATER QUALITY MONITORING

Monitor waterlines regularly using validated methods and testing kits to assess microbial load and ensure compliance with regulatory standards. Some experts recommend testing monthly until you achieve consistent passing results, at which time you can begin testing quarterly.



### 2. CONTINUOUS WATERLINE TREATMENT

Use approved waterline treatments such as a straw- or cartridge-based system to help control microbial growth, remove biofilm and maintain water quality. Refer to manufacturer instructions for frequency of use and/or replacement.



### 4. AS-NEEDED SHOCK TREATMENTS

Some experts recommend performing a shock treatment at the start of a new treatment protocol and if a waterline shows failing or even borderline test results (200 CFU/mL or more) before returning to regular maintenance.



## Keep patients safe.

A FREE DentaPure® straw is included when purchasing a new Midmark dental delivery system. Designed to maintain dental system waterlines for 365 days. Designed to help manage dental unit waterline biofilm. Tested in accordance with ISO 16954 methods.

[LEARN MORE ►](#)

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Sources:

1 CDC (p. 28-29) - <https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/PDF/rr/rr5217.pdf>

2 ADA - <https://www.ada.org/en/resources/ada-library/oral-health-topics/dental-unit-waterlines>

3 OSAP/ADS - <https://www.osap.org/topics-duwl-dental-unit-waterline-fact-sheet>

4 ProEdge Dental - <https://proedgedental.com/2022/08/waterline-contamination-anaheim/>

5 CDC - <https://emergency.cdc.gov/han/2022/han00478.asp>

6 ADA/HuFriedy - [https://www.ada.org/-/media/project/ada-organization/ada/ada-org/files/resources/ada-library/duwl\\_one\\_page\\_guide\\_infection\\_control.pdf?rev=77be68edefe54e84bc90679ba17e5ce7&hash=592565B57A81086C4E253012D31EDC7](https://www.ada.org/-/media/project/ada-organization/ada/ada-org/files/resources/ada-library/duwl_one_page_guide_infection_control.pdf?rev=77be68edefe54e84bc90679ba17e5ce7&hash=592565B57A81086C4E253012D31EDC7)

7 ProEdge Dental - <https://proedgedental.com/resources/three-steps-to-safe-water/>



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