HOW TO SHOCK WATERLINES

How do I “shock” treat the water bottles and lines with 5.25% Sodium Hypochlorite (household bleach)?

1. Fill each water bottle with a 1:10 sodium hypochlorite solution (1 ounce household bleach to 10 ounces water.) Re-attach each bottle to the unit.

2. Run each A/W syringe for about 15 seconds until you smell the bleach at the syringe.

3. Remove the high speed hand piece from the end of the line, place the handpiece connection into the sink and step on the pedal for a few seconds, running the water until you can smell the bleach at the handpiece connection. This bleach smell verifies that the 1:10 dilution of bleach is in the lines.

4. Repeat this procedure for each Air/Water syringe and each hand piece in each Operatory, leaving the diluted bleach in the lines for 10 minutes but never longer than 15 minutes. Prolonged exposure to bleach can cause damage to equipment. As a precaution, we suggest placing a sign which states “SYSTEM IS BEING DISINFECTED WITH A STRONG DISINFECTANT. DO NOT USE.”

5. Disconnect the water bottles and dump the remaining solution in water bottles into a sink. Do not flush bleach into any vacuum system that contains an amalgam separator. Refill water bottles with warm water and flush the bleach from all lines in every Operatory for 1-3 minutes/each or until the sodium hypochlorite odor disappears.

Important facts about “shock” treating your dental unit waterlines:

- DO NOT flush bleach into any vacuum or drain system that contains an amalgam separator.
- DO NOT leave bleach or sodium hypochlorite in your water lines for more than 10 minutes.
- Why do I need to shock my waterlines? All continuously present waterline maintenance products have a low level antimicrobial agent that is designed to be safe as a dental irrigant. A low level antimicrobial will inhibit bacterial growth but will not eliminate it. Periodically, you need to clean or shock your lines with a more powerful chemical agent.

Please read the instructions of your waterline maintenance product carefully.
Any questions? Call 888-843-3343