Before you go on holiday...

When leaving a dental unit unused for a holiday period of several weeks, it's important to take a number of precautions to ensure optimal hygiene and extend the life of the equipment.

Below is a thorough guide on how to care for and prepare a dental unit for holidays (may vary depending on brand/manufacturer):

1

Surfaces and work areas

Wipe down all visible surfaces with suitable cleaning and disinfectant products.

Pay particular attention to control panels, handles, light sources and patient chair covers.

2 Suction and saliva collection systems

Thoroughly clean and disinfect the suction system with recommended suction cleaner (typically enzymatic cleaning followed by disinfection).

Rinse with copious amounts of clean water if recommended by the manufacturer.

3

Instrument hoses and handpieces

Remove and clean all handpieces and turbines. Lubricate and sterilise according to instructions.

Blow air through the hoses and wipe with disinfectant wipes at connectors if necessary.

4

Water system and biofilm prevention

If your dental unit is connected to an independent water system (bottle system):

Empty and clean the bottle. Flush the hoses with approved dental unit disinfectant.

If the unit is connected to the practice water supply:

Perform the recommended disinfection routine (either continuous or shock disinfection depending on system type).

Then switch off the water supply to the unit

NOTE: Biofilm can form in stagnant water - proper disinfection reduces the risk.

5

When returning from holiday

Perform a thorough flushing of the water system.

Perform the recommended disinfection routine (either continuous or shock disinfection depending on system type), or for bottled water systems, clean the water bottle and flush with approved disinfectant.

Perform the daily start-up routine, including testing handpieces and suction system.

Check for leaks or irregularities.

6

Technical conditions

Switch off the power to the unit via the main switch.

Switch off the compressor and vacuum system if possible.

If possible, disconnect compressed air and water from the supply.

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7Additional advice

Always follow the manufacturer's specific maintenance instructions - e.g. from Heka Dental if you work on HEKA units.

If you have a service agreement, it may be a good idea to have the unit serviced during your holiday.

You can download our hygiene guide for your HEKA unit here:

