

# Protect your handpieces

**Medicert** offers a solution to keeping your most hard working tools in top condition

*The DAC Universal in motion*



**Same instrument, same use, same sterilisation, but only the one on the right has continuously been flushed before sterilisation**

Decontamination processes while keeping your handpieces in good condition and controlling maintenance costs can all be challenging, but if something could save you time, space and money, how would you feel?

In the current economic climate, the cost of everything seems to be on the rise and dental practices around Scotland have been sharing their concerns about potential cost increases relating to handpieces when introducing different decontamination processes to their practices.

Longer decontamination cycle times can mean additional handpieces need to be purchased to ensure there are sufficient available at any one time. This can be very costly depending on the number required, not forgetting the extra cost of maintaining the additional handpieces.

## The problem

The handpiece internal lumen is a maze of small, hard-to-reach recesses and the introduction of different decontamination processes can mean new stresses to face for this hard working, complex and indispensable piece of equipment. Oil emulsifying

when handpieces are not thoroughly dried after cleaning and the introduction of aggressive chemicals into the lumen can contribute to a higher frequency of seized bearings and therefore an increase in handpiece repair and replacement costs.

Careful oiling can be used to help protect handpieces during the decontamination cycle but it is hard to regulate by hand and excessive use means not only having to buy oil more frequently but can lead to the potential premature failure of autoclave components. That can lead to greater autoclave maintenance costs and down time.

One solution might be to use an automated handpiece lubricating system for three or four handpieces at a time. What this might not address, however, is decontamination cycle times, the number of additional handpieces you may still need to purchase as a consequence, the debate about which type of steriliser you should use, how long your decontamination operatives will need to spend on the whole process or the question of whether you want to introduce chemicals into the lumen or not.

## The answer

If you think the answer might be a small, clever handpiece processor, which precisely lubricates then sterilises up to six handpieces of any type with a total cycle time of as little as 12.5 minutes start to finish, then the DAC Universal by Nitram could be right up your street.

It first flushes the handpieces inside and out using water tested for purity, dries with compressed air, lubricates using an oil-saving precise dosing system, sterilises at 134°C and the shortest overall cycle time is 12.5 minutes. With the DAC Universal there's no need for a separate lubricator and handpiece autoclave. All this is done by just one small, space saving piece of equipment that could save time and money while helping handpieces last longer.

There's a useful application on the Nitram website that helps calculate the potential savings your practice could make over more traditional processes.

[www.nitramdental.com/products/3-products/3-dac-universal/](http://www.nitramdental.com/products/3-products/3-dac-universal/)

While the DAC Universal could save you time and money, another plus is that decontamination operatives love it, which could win you brownie points and save you a fair bit of ear bending. It is currently being used in many practices throughout the UK and now has full service support in Scotland too.

If you want to see it for yourself, it will be on display at the FGDP event at Glasgow Science Centre in December, or J&S Davis is always happy to have a representative visit you to demonstrate.

## Medicert

Is a Scottish medical equipment specialist for small businesses, founded in June 2002. For further information, phone 01324 636 675, email [info@medicert.co.uk](mailto:info@medicert.co.uk) or visit <http://www.medicert.co.uk/index.html>.