

HuFriedyGroup Boil Water Advisory Remediation

Dental offices should follow the CDC boil water advisory protocol below.

Both the DentaPure™ Cartridge and Hu-Friedy Waterline Filter inhibit the growth of microbial contamination in dental unit waterlines. However, these products do not have clinical data to support treatment of specific parasites/bacteria/toxins. If using a different dental unit waterline treatment, contact your DUWL manufacturer for specific boil water advisory instructions related to that product.

DentaPure™ Cartridge and Hu-Friedy Waterline Filter Users with Self-Contained Water Bottles

If there is a chance that contaminated water may have been used to fill the self-contained water bottle, and as a result, passed through the DentaPure Cartridge or Hu-Friedy Waterline Filter, it is recommended to the cartridge/filter. In addition, dental offices are urged to clean/shock their dental unit waterlines prior to installing the new cartridge/filter where possible. HuFriedyGroup has two cleaning/shocking options available:

- [Liquid Ultra™ Solution \(Item#: DS503L\)](#)
- [VistaTab™ Dental Waterline Cleaner Tablets \(Item#: IMS-1451\)](#)

Following cleaning/shocking of the dental unit waterlines, install the new cartridge/filter per the Instructions for Use. Until the boil water advisory is cancelled, temporary use of distilled or other potable water in place of tap water in the self-contained water bottle will enable continued patient treatment.

DentaPure™ Cartridge and Hu-Friedy Waterline Filter Users with Dental Units Plumbed Directly to Municipal Water

If dental unit has an option to toggle to a bottle:

- Remove and discard the cartridge/filter
- Toggle to the bottle and clean/shock the dental unit per Instructions for Use that accompany the Cleaner/Shock product
- Once the boil water advisory is cancelled, install a new cartridge/filter and toggle back to the municipal water connection

If municipally plumbed dental unit waterlines cannot be shocked:

- Install a new cartridge/filter after the boil water advisory has been cancelled.
- Flush all water producing lines on the dental unit (including unused or infrequently used line) per the Instructions for Use prior to first use.

Dental offices located in areas with frequent Boil Water Advisories may want to consider changing their municipally plumbed dental units to dental units with a self-contained water bottle option or adding a self-contained water bottle to their existing dental unit.

CDC Guidelines for Infection Control in Dental Health-Care Settings --- 2003 - MMWR, Dec 19 / 52(RR17);1-61

Boil-Water Advisories

A boil-water advisory is a public health announcement that the public should boil tap water before drinking it. When issued, the public should assume the water is unsafe to drink. Advisories can be issued after 1) failure of or substantial interruption in water treatment processes that result in increased turbidity levels or particle counts and mechanical or equipment failure; 2) positive test results for pathogens (e.g., *Cryptosporidium*, *Giardia*, or *Shigella*) in water; 3) violations of the total coliform rule or the turbidity standard of the surface water treatment rule; 4) circumstances that compromise the distribution system (e.g., watermain break) coupled with an indication of a health hazard; or 5) a natural disaster (e.g., flood, hurricane, or earthquake) (346). In recent years, increased numbers of boil-water advisories have resulted from contamination of public drinking water systems with waterborne pathogens. Most notable was the outbreak of cryptosporidiosis in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where the municipal water system was contaminated with the protozoan parasite *Cryptosporidium parvum*. An estimated 403,000 persons became ill (347,348).

During a boil-water advisory, water should not be delivered to patients through the dental unit, ultrasonic scaler, or other dental equipment that uses the public water system. This restriction does not apply if the water source is isolated from the municipal water system (e.g., a separate water reservoir or other water treatment device cleared for marketing by FDA). Patients should rinse with bottled or distilled water until the boil-water advisory has been cancelled. During these advisory periods, tap water should not be used to dilute germicides or for hand hygiene unless the water has been brought to a rolling boil for >1 minute and cooled before use (346,349--351). For hand hygiene, antimicrobial products that do not require water (e.g., alcohol-based hand rubs) can be used until the boil-water notice is cancelled. If hands are visibly contaminated, bottled water and soap should be used for handwashing; if bottled water is not immediately available, an antiseptic towelette should be used (13,122).

When the advisory is cancelled, the local water utility should provide guidance for flushing of waterlines to reduce residual microbial contamination. All incoming waterlines from the public water system inside the dental office (e.g., faucets, waterlines, and dental equipment) should be flushed. No consensus exists regarding the optimal duration for flushing procedures after cancellation of the advisory; recommendations range from 1 to 5 minutes (244,346,351,352). The length of time needed can vary with the type and length of the plumbing system leading to the office. After the incoming public water system lines are flushed, dental unit waterlines should be disinfected according to the manufacturer's instructions (346).

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