

Can I use the Digitest 3 on a patient with a cardiac pacemaker, defibrillator or insulin pump?

This device is contraindicated for use on a patient, OR BY AN OPERATOR, wearing any intra-corporeal devices, such as cardiac pacemakers, defibrillators, insulin pumps, etc.

Is it safe to use the Digitest 3 device if a patient is being administered nitrous oxide?

The Digitest 3 cannot be used in the presence of flammable or explosive gases. The use of dental nitrous oxide/oxygen analgesia is not advisable because you would not get an accurate response. To accurately diagnose the condition of the tooth, pulp testing must be performed on a patient who has not received local anesthesia or gas analgesia.

Will attachments from other pulp testers work with the Digitest 3?

The use of accessories other than those specified, or provided by Parkell, Inc. will result in improper operation. Do not use.

Why is LO blinking on the screen when I turn the Digitest 3 on?

The battery is low and needs to be replaced. Replace it as explained in the section "Installing/ Replacing the Battery. Battery should be removed if unit is to be stored unused for more than 30 days.

The tooth probe has become loose in the mount of the power unit. How can I tighten it?

It may be tightened by carefully inserting a flat screwdriver blade into the split metal base of the probe and gently expanding the sides apart with a twist of the tool.

If the metal or insulation on the tooth probe becomes damaged can it be repaired?

No. Discard and replace any tooth probe if the metal or the insulation becomes damaged during use.

If I use an electric pulp tester do I still need to hot and cold test for diagnosis?

The Parkell Digitest 3 is to be used in conjunction with other diagnostic tests such as x rays, temperature tests, percussion etc. in order to confirm tooth vitality.

I just pulp test with cold. Do I have to wait a certain amount of time before I follow that test up with electric pulp testing?

No. Studies indicate cold testing prior to electric pulp testing does not impact the results of the electric pulp test.

Are the tooth probes autoclavable?

The tooth probes, ground clip and wire assembly may be sterilized in any conventional steam autoclave. Comply with manufacturers recommended procedures.

Can I autoclave the Digitest 3 power unit?

NO. *Autoclaving the Digitest 3 power unit will damage it.*

I have used the Digitest 3 on several patients and noticed that the numerical results vary from patient to patient. Shouldn't normal readings be the same for all patients?

Not necessarily. Each patient will have their own base level to electrical stimulus that must be determined at the time of testing. The base level for each patient can be determined by pulp testing similar teeth to the teeth in question. To confirm the diagnosis, a corresponding control tooth in the same arch should be tested. Molars should be matched to molars, premolars to premolars, cuspids to cuspids, and incisors to incisors. If this is not possible because teeth are absent, endodontically treated, have full coverage or very large restorations a similar tooth in the opposite arch should be used.

Does electric pulp testing cause discomfort?

Explain to the patient that they are in control of the test and can stop it at any time. In most instances, the first sensation patients notice is a tingling feeling. When the patient feels a change in the tooth (tingling, pulsing, buzzing or slight discomfort) all they need to do is let go of the metal Ground Clip and the test will be over. This should minimize the potential for patient discomfort.