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Answers to common questions about DetecTar mini

May 23, 2007



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What is the DetecTar mini™?

The only automated dental diagnostic aid available on the market that provides quick, easy detection of calculus.

How does the DetecTar mini work?

The DetecTar mini uses light-emitting diode (LED) technology to detect calculus. When light is reflected off calculus, an audible signal (beep) is emitted.

Features and benefits:

Unequivocal results — detects three times more calculus:

- More accurate and precise: clinical studies have shown that DetecTar provides 91 percent sensitivity — three times greater accuracy than traditional periodontal probes.

Reduces overdetection by 64 percent: enables less unnecessary instrumentation, ensuring proper reattachment of gingival tissue. (1)

- Prevents overscaling and root sensitivity: DetecTar can be used to indicate the endpoint of therapy. (2) reducing hypersensitivity and minimizing damage caused to root surface.

Easy-to-use diagnostic tool for periodontists and dental hygienists:

- Cordless and convenient
- Lightweight: only 2.4 ounces (68g)
- Pen size: 8.7 inches (22cm)
- Ergonomic: similar in shape and size to traditional periodontal probe
- Portable: easy to store and transport

Detection in deep pockets: allows for more accurate and continuous detection even in deep periodontal pockets — it is unaffected by the presence of blood, saliva, or other contaminants.

Saves time: aids hygienists in a more efficient examination by focusing only on affected areas. Studies have shown up to 15 seconds less are spent per tooth. (1)

Treatment plan acceptance: audible sounds enable patients to understand and accept proposed treatment plans

Can help reduce recall period between treatments (six vs. nine months)

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Helps reduce the incidence of periodontal disease, which can be linked to serious health issues (e.g., heart disease, diabetes, stroke, ulcers, and preterm births).

Detects all types of calculus: white, brown, burnished (up to 200 microns).

LED technology emits no heat, is not a laser, and is safe for clinicians and patients. Also, hygienists are authorized to use LED technologies.

Easy to sterilize

No calibration required — always ready to use

Excellent educational tool for dental and hygiene schools

Treats more than 100 patients (two AAA batteries required)

Wavelength = 630-880 nm

100 percent compatible with handpiece supports

The National Institute of Dental Research (NIDR) reports that close to 90 percent of individuals examined in a study exhibited some calculus (Brown, Brunelle, Kingman 1996). Sixty-seven percent of the NIDR study participants had some subgingival calculus. Additionally, the prevalence rate of calculus was found to be 74 percent in people age 13 to 17 and over 90 percent in all older age groups. — *American Dental Hygienists' Association*.

Source: www.neks.com

References

(1) Gornitsky M. In vitro and in vivo evaluation of the effectiveness of probe N-123 in detecting subgingival calculus. McGill University, 2002/2004.

(2) Krause F, et al. Detection of subgingival calculus with novel LED-based optical probe. In *Journal of Periodontology* July 2005; 76(7).

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