

Infection Control and Maintenance Guidelines



for Bedfont Smokerlyzer[®], Gastrolyzer[®] and ToxCO[™] monitors

Before using any of the above equipment, the Operating Manual should be read and fully understood.

Infection Control

Washing hands before and after testing is highly recommended for both operator and user as part of a sensible infection control regime.

The monitors use disposable cardboard Flatpak mouthpieces that connect to the monitor via a D-piece. The mouthpieces are single-use only as re-use can increase the risk of cross-infection.

The D-piece contains a one-way valve to prevent patients drawing air back from the monitor. An integrated infection control filter removes and traps >99.9% of airborne bacteria¹. Bedfont recommend that the D-piece is replaced every month or if visibly soiled. Take advice from your infection control expert before use on patients with known communicable diseases/conditions. D-pieces cannot be sterilized as this process may affect the positioning of the valve. It is possible that saliva can build up inside D-pieces that are not replaced regularly, which may over time affect the valve and efficacy of the filter material.

It is preferable that the user attaches their own mouthpiece to the D-piece before the breath test, and detaches and disposes of it once the test is complete.

Whilst the user is exhaling, the operator should avoid positioning themselves in front of the exhaust port of the instrument.

Routine Maintenance

See the Operating Manual for full maintenance instructions.

The D-piece requires changing at least every 28 days. A reminder will appear on the Micro⁺, Gastro⁺ and ToxCO start-up screens.

Batteries should be replaced when indicated. They should be removed if the instrument is not likely to be used for some time.

Calibration

- The piCO⁺ should be calibrated with 20ppm carbon monoxide in air calibration gas at least every six months.
- The Micro⁺ and ToxCO should be calibrated with 50ppm carbon monoxide in air calibration gas at least every six months. A reminder that calibration is due will be displayed on the instrument start-up screen every 24 weeks.

¹Health Protection Agency (HPA), Porton Down, Report No 43/06, pp. 10-11

- The Gastro⁺ should be calibrated with 100ppm hydrogen in air at least every three months, displaying an on-screen reminder every 12 weeks.

- It is recommended that only Bedfont calibration gas is used. The unit may give false readings if not calibrated. H₂ in air calibration cylinders. CO in air gas can be supplied in canisters, or a single-use Cali-bag or piCO⁺ or Micro⁺ Smokerlyzers.

Cleaning

Wipe the external surfaces of the instrument with a product specifically developed for this purpose. Bedfont provides instrument cleansing wipes that contain an antimicrobial liquid. It is recommended that wipes are used once and for one surface only.

Never use alcohol or cleaning products containing alcohol or other organic solvents as these vapours will damage the sensor within the instrument.

Under no circumstances should the instrument be immersed in or splashed with liquid.

Contact coVita for replacements:

Instrument alcohol free cleansing wipes

Alcohol free hand sanitizer

D-pieces & FP/T-Pieces

Flatpak disposable cardboard mouthpieces (single-use)

Calibration gas cans and kits

Single-use Cali-bag CO in air

Screen cloths

Touch-screen stylus for Micro⁺, Gastro⁺ and ToxCO

AA alkaline batteries

U.S. Customers, please contact:

coVita
tel: 800-707-5751 • fax: 800-721-2377
service@covita.net • www.covita.net

Address:
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This document is intended for guidance only

breath analysis is the new blood test



Why change my D-piece or T-piece every 30 days?

D-piece

- **# of Tests:** D-piece can be used to perform hundreds of tests.
- **Cleaning:** The exterior of the D-piece can be cleaned with an alcohol-free wipe only. This will not extend the life of the D-piece. The interior of the D-piece cannot be cleaned by any method including autoclaving or with detergents or cleansers of any kind due to the soft-membrane flutter valve component which could become damaged, ultimately affecting the one-way nature of the valve. Damage to the flutter valve could allow a subject to inhale.
- **Length of Use:** Once you've begun using the D-piece, it should be disposed of after 30 days, regardless of use, as is recommended by the Bedfont Infection Control Guide. This recommendation is in part to keep the testing process hygienic and prevent a build-up of bacteria in the monitor. In addition, prolonged use of the D-piece can result in wear and tear on the flutter valve component of the D-piece which could ultimately affect the one-way nature of the valve. Damage to the flutter valve would most likely not be visually noticeable.
- **Heavy Volume Testing:** If conducting heavy volume testing please be aware that after about 30 consecutive tests, the D-piece can become a bit sluggish from the build-up of condensation from the breath. Subjects may complain that it is difficult to blow through. This is easily remedied by replacing that D-piece with a fresh one and allowing the original to sit out for approximately 30 minutes or less to give the condensation a chance to evaporate.
- **Condensation Build-up:** During the course of testing, you may notice a build-up of condensation inside the D-piece. This is completely normal and expected and occurs because of condensation from the breath. If you notice an excessive amount of condensation, please follow the heavy volume and cleaning tips.
- **Infection Control:** The D-piece contains an integrated infection control filter that removes and traps >99.9% of airborne bacteria to help keep the test hygienic and keep bacteria from collecting inside of your Smokerlyzer®.
- **Supply:** Essentially, a 6 pack is a six month supply and a 12 pack would be approximately equivalent to a one year supply. This is assuming that only one is used per month.



T-piece

- **# of Tests:** T-piece can be used to perform hundreds of tests.
- **Cleaning:** The exterior of the T-piece can be cleaned with an alcohol-free wipe only. This will not extend the life of the T-piece. The T-piece cannot be cleaned by any method including autoclaving or with detergents or cleansers of any kind due to the soft-membrane flutter valve component which could become damaged, ultimately affecting the one-way nature of the valve. Damage to the flutter valve could allow a subject to inhale.
- **Length of Use:** Once you've begun using the T-piece, it should be disposed of after 30 days, regardless of use, as is recommended by the Bedfont Infection Control Guide. This recommendation is in part to keep the testing process hygienic and prevent a build-up of bacteria in the monitor. In addition, prolonged use of the T-piece can result in wear and tear on the flutter valve component of the T-piece which could ultimately affect the one-way nature of the valve. Damage to the flutter valve would most likely not be visually noticeable.
- **Heavy Volume Testing:** If conducting heavy volume testing please be aware that after about 30 consecutive tests, the T-piece can become a bit sluggish from the build-up of condensation from the breath. Subjects may complain that it is difficult to blow through. This is easily remedied by replacing that T-piece with a fresh one and allowing the original to sit out for approximately 30 minutes or less to give the condensation a chance to evaporate.
- **Condensation Build-up:** During the course of testing, you may notice a build-up of condensation inside the T-piece. This is completely normal and expected and occurs because of condensation from the breath. If you notice an excessive amount of condensation, please follow the heavy volume and cleaning tips.
- **Supply:** Essentially, a 5 pack is a five month supply and a 10 pack would be approximately equivalent to a ten month supply. This is assuming that only one is used per month.

