

Frequently Asked Questions

The AD Unit

1. How does the AD work?

The AD is designed to replicate the natural biocidal effect of the external environment and is intended to operate continuously in occupied areas. It uses a replaceable cartridge designed to last three months. The unit has in-built safety precautions to ensure that it does not exceed this period.

2. How should I use the AD ?

The unit operates most efficiently when it is run continuously, 24 hours a day.

3. Why is this Unit not classified as a medical device?

The AD Unit is offered and supplied as a piece of equipment to be included in the Infection Control Prevention procedures that a hospital or trust may implement. It is not supplied specifically as a piece of equipment which is able to provide “A Sterilised Environment”.

4. What is the Unit classified as?

A Cleaning Device.

5. Does a Medical Device have to meet more rigorous certification/legislation/registration?

Yes, however the AD meets all legislation necessary and carries the CE Mark

6. How much power does the unit use when running.

In normal operation the unit consumes about 18w, less than a 1/3 of a light bulb.

7. Does the Unit carry the CE Mark?

Yes, a copy of the certificates are available on request.

8. Does the Unit act as a filter?

No – the AD is an air disinfection device, and does not rely on air filtration to do this.

9. How long will the AD last?

In normal use we expect it to run for several years. The AD is guaranteed for 2 years overseas; if it fails, just return it to us for a free replacement.

10. Can the Unit run on batteries?

Not presently.

11. Why are some units wall mounted rather than floor mounted?

This is simply to accommodate specific installation requirements. There is no difference in the operation of a wall mounted Unit compared to a floor mounted Unit.

12. What effect does air flow have on the efficacy of the unit? eg. 100 sq m room with swing doors both ends & A/C vents. Waiting areas in main hospital here have open corridors both ends. Less than 100 m sq but open both ends!

Having had units operating in hospitals under these conditions, we do not foresee any complications as a result of this. Furthermore, our successful trials at Leeds University were performed in 40m³ rooms with three air changes per hour.

13. Will disinfection still takes place after Units are switched off?

No hydroxyl radicals will be produced once the Unit is switched off, and disinfection will quickly cease throughout the room or ward.

14. The swirl bowl is covered in an orange/brown residue

It is not unusual for a residue to appear within the swirl bowl and on the underside of the swirl bowl cover. The residue is likely to be greater (and darker) when the AD has been switched off for a period. The swirl bowl is easily cleaned with the surface wipe that accompanies a new Cartridge or by using a wipe as supplied or virtually any aqua/alcohol based wipe.

15. The unit switches off due to a mains failure; will it restart immediately upon restoration of power?

Yes, and it will remember the mode of operation it was in prior to the power failure.

16. What happens if the Unit will not “run”?

First, refer to the User Guide, supplied with each AD Unit or the troubleshooting section of our website at www.inov8science.com.

17. The Unit is knocked over and then stood back up with the Cartridge inside. Will the Unit restart itself? What damage can be done?

If the unit is knocked over, the alarm will sound and the unit will switch itself off. Once the unit is set back upright it should start and continue functioning as normal. However it should be recognised that some internal damage may have been done if the fall was severe. If there is any concern with the operation of the unit, the unit should be switched off immediately.

18. What happens if I don't "reset" the switch on the Unit, after changing a cartridge?

If the cartridge bottle is replaced immediately the buzzer alarm sounds but the unit not subsequently reset, then the AD Unit, may shut down in following 2 to 3 days. This is to the Unit not being "informed" that a Cartridge has been changed and assures day 31 has been reached. Holding down the Start button for approximately 5 seconds, while the unit is in standby mode will reset the timer.

19. What happens if the alarm on the unit can not be silenced?

The cartridge may have run out.

20. What happens if the alarm on the unit is faulty? How may I test the alarm is working

Turn the unit on, with the amber light showing hold down the button for 5 seconds and listen for the audible alarm.

21. What happens if the alarm sounds and I ignore it?

It will continue to beep

22. What happens if the alarm sounds, indicating a Cartridge change is due and I ignore it?

It will continue running for approximately 3-5 days, from initial sounding, before eventually switching itself off.

FAQs – 1

Consumable Cartridge

- 1. Do the refills have only 3 months of shelf life? If yes, how is the order arrangement normally done for this item?**

The cartridge shelf life is 9 months from date of manufacture/order date.

- 2. How long does each cartridge last when used in the AD unit?**

The consumable life in a machine operating 24/7 is 3 months.

- 3. How do I know the cartridge needs replacing?**

The unit will provide a warning to ensure the cartridges are changed every 90 -95 days. After 3 months operation, the green light on the front of the unit will flash green/amber and this indicates that the cartridge needs replacing. If this is ignored for the following 5 days the on-off switch will then turn to constant amber and then shut itself down.

- 4. Does the Cartridge conform to the latest COSHH regulations?**

Yes the cartridge conforms to all appropriate regulations.

- 5. How long does it take to change a cartridge in a unit?**

It is a very straight forward process to change the cartridge and this normally takes only a matter of minutes.

- 6. Can I extend this period between changing cartridges, without jeopardising my ward and hygiene levels?**

Failure to follow correct operating procedures for the AD Unit, may potentially jeopardise your hygiene standards.

- 7. The Cartridge cannot be removed from the AD**

Included with the replacement cartridges a transit cap (a short piece of blue plastic) which is used to remove the exhausted cartridge. Install the stalk end of the transit cap into the hole in the top of the cartridge, rotate through 90 degrees and lift the used cartridge out.

- 8. The cartridge bottle is not empty, yet the AD indicates that it needs to be replaced**

To ensure optimum performance of your AD, the fluid should be replaced at the recommended intervals. Varying atmospheric conditions will affect the quantity of fluid consumed and is likely to have an effect on the fractions of the fluid that are left behind (i.e. the constituency may be affected). The used cartridge with any remaining fluid inside should be placed into the re-sealable stand up bag (supplied with the new cartridge) and disposed of via general waste.

9. Who is responsible for changing the cartridges?

At ward level, we would recommend that at least two individuals are committed to support the units. Full training is always given.

10. Can I transfer and use Cartridges that may have been in other units?

This is Not recommended as each unit has its timer set for when it had its Cartridge changed specific to that unit.

11. Do you have Cartridges with scented aromas?

A variety of fluids are being researched that will provide different aromas, but they are not presently available for market.

12. What conditions should the Cartridges be stored under.

The cartridge should be stored at normal room temperature ~ 25 °C and out of direct sunlight.

13. Is there a “Use by Date” for the Cartridges?

No, however there is a manufacture date and the Cartridge should be used in date order.

14. What are the consequences of using a Cartridge, which has been opened but then not be used for several days or weeks.

The recommendation here is to discard the “Opened Cartridge”, replacing with a new one. However, if the cartridge has been stored in normal conditions and has been kept upright for the whole period, there shouldn’t be any problems.

15. The AD ON/OFF button flashes green and the pump does not run (i.e. there is no vibration or sound from the AD)

In normal circumstances there are only two conditions that will cause this you should:

- a) Check that the Cartridge is installed and pushed fully into the AD (when the bottle is installed correctly it depresses a small switch located within the swirl bowl).
- b) Check that the swirl bowl cover is correctly installed. The cover is attached to the top of the AD by clipping it onto the rear of the swirl bowl and applying gentle pressure to the front until it “clicks” into place.

16. The AD ON/OFF button flashes green and amber (just green on earlier models) and the pump is running.

This indicates that the Cartridge is due to be replaced. The unit will continue to run for five days in this state before turning itself off. Please replace the cartridge as detailed

17. The AD ON/OFF button is amber and will not change when the button is pressed

This indicates that the Cartridge has expired. Please replace the cartridge as detailed in the User Guide.