

# ASK SIMON

THE DENTAL EXPERT



## A-DEC UPHOLSTERY CARE & MAINTENANCE

A-dec chair upholstery is designed to provide users with unsurpassed comfort, a rich aesthetic, and low overall maintenance. A-dec provides a one-year warranty against defects in material and workmanship and all upholstery is factory tested to ensure many years of life, provided it is properly maintained and cared for. To ensure robust upholstery design A-dec conducts extensive internal testing, using industry standard tests, to qualify our materials and construction methodology to validate how the upholstery will react/wear over time when exposed to most external factors. There are several factors that can impact the longevity of upholstery and cause premature deterioration of its surfaces. It is the responsibility of the clinician to understand and regulate the effect of these elements to ensure the maximum useful life of A-dec upholstery. External factors include:

- Chemicals (disinfecting/cleaning)
- Ultraviolet light (sunlight)
- Humidity, heat, & high mineral content water
- Equipment lubricants, materials used in dental procedures, & sharp objects
- Abrasion due to applicators & cleaners
- Body oils & staining/discoloration

The common indicators of these affects include: changes in the texture, hardening, cracking, peeling, splitting, and discoloration of the upholstered surface.



Cracking



Peeling



### Cleaning

Based on our research, A-dec recommends cleaning the upholstery using a solution of mild, non-ionic detergent and water, or commercially available cleaners containing no alcohol, bleach, or ammonia. Dishwashing detergent is usually non-ionic. Because the hardness of water varies from locale to locale, you should experiment to determine the best mix of detergent to water. Mix just enough detergent to allow for good cleaning without leaving a soapy film on the surface. Never use abrasive cleansers, scrubbing pads, or other abrasive applicators as they can permanently scratch or otherwise damage upholstery surfaces.

### Disinfection

We have learned from our contact with infection control experts that chair upholstery is extremely low risk for transferring pathogens. However, since interpretation of OSHA rules commonly implies some form of infection control related to upholstery, A-dec recommends barrier protection. Minimize the use of surface disinfecting chemicals on upholstery vinyl. Use surface disinfectants on upholstery vinyl between patient visits only when barriers have been compromised. Use cleaning and barriers as your primary asepsis approach on chair upholstery. If cross-contamination on chair upholstery is a concern, we recommend the use of barrier covers for the chair instead of relying on chemicals. Barriers significantly extend the life of your chair upholstery. If used for infection control, barriers must be replaced between patients.

Contact Dental Medical Ireland today

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