Action levels: HuFriedyGroup recommendation

- **Passing Results <500 CFU/mL**
    - Keep doing what you are doing and continue to test per state requirements, equipment manufacturer recommendations, waterline treatment manufacturer recommendations, or in the absence of manufacturer recommendations, follow the OSAP recommendation for quarterly testing following two consecutive months of passing results
    - Ensure that new or existing staff who are new to a waterline maintenance responsibility are trained in the office waterline treatment and testing products and protocols

- **Failing Results >500 CFU/mL**
    - **Shock/Re-Test/Treat/Test**
        - **Read the IFU of your selected shock treatment in advance** – some treatments can be completed in a few minutes to a few hours, while others may require a multiple night protocol, or for the office to be open the morning after overnight shocking to flush the shocking solution out of the lines. Do not deviate from the shock product protocol. Contact the product manufacturer with any questions
        - Ensure to shock infrequently or unused lines, scalers, side/assistant carts, cabinets connected to water on the unit. Failure to reach these lines with shocking liquid will result in dead legs (areas where pockets of bacteria hide) that can continually re-contaminate the system
        - **Re-test as soon as possible following shock treatment**
            - Ensure that all water bearing lines are flushed for two-minutes prior to sampling
            - If previous testing was via an in-office method, consider re-testing with a mail-in lab test product to understand what the exact CFU counts are
            - Review the Aseptic Technique for Obtaining a Water Sample for Testing
    - Look to cap off/remove unused lines
    - Disconnection of unit water heaters is strongly recommended
    - Review the IFU of your current waterline treatment to ensure that protocols are being followed. If not, re-educate staff responsible for waterline maintenance to ensure that proper protocols are now in place
    - If you are not currently maintaining your waterlines with a germicidal waterline treatment product, start using one to ensure that lines are appropriately maintained following shocking. Per the CDC, removal or inactivation of DUWL biofilms requires use of chemical germicides[1]
        - Reach out to the Waterline Support team at HuFriedyGroup to discuss options on the market today
    - Follow a regular dental waterline testing protocol as determined by your state, equipment manufacturer, waterline treatment manufacturer or in the absence of a recommended testing protocol, HuFriedyGroup recommends following OSAP guidance to test monthly until two consecutive months show passing results and the switch to no less than quarterly

[1] *CDC MMWR: Guidelines for Infection Control in Dental Health-Care Settings - 2003*

- ***Optional Remediation*** **if using a mail-in lab test method that provides an exact CFU count and your lines are failing anywhere from 501 to 2,000 CFU/mL**

    - Review the IFU of your current waterline maintenance or shock treatment as well as your waterline test method to ensure that instructions have been followed

    - **If currently maintaining your lines with germicidal treatment, but protocols have not been followed**
        - Re-educate staff responsible for waterline maintenance to ensure that IFUs are understood and that proper protocols are now in place. Follow the germicidal treatment protocols for two-weeks and re-test with either a mail-in lab test or in-office test method
            - Ensure that ALL water bearing lines (including unused, or rarely used) are flushed for two minutes prior to sampling
        - If re-testing confirms passing results, follow the guidance on the first page under **Passing Results <500 CFU/mL**
        - If re-testing results in failure, follow the Shock/Re-Test/Treat/Test protocol on the first page above under **Failing Results >500 CFU/mL**

    - **Not currently maintaining your waterlines with a germicidal waterline treatment product**
        - Follow the Shock/Re-Test/Treat/Test protocol on the first page above under **Failing Results >500 CFU/mL**

    - **If all protocols have been followed:**
        - Follow the SHOCK protocol on the first page above under **Failing Results >500 CFU/mL**
        - Review the IFU of your current dental waterline testing method to ensure that protocols are being followed. If not, re-educate staff responsible for waterline testing to ensure that proper protocols are now in place. It is very easy to compromise a waterline sample. Review the Aseptic Technique for Obtaining a Water Sample for Testing

If your office is consistently failing regardless of all remediation efforts, reach out to HuFriedyGroup water support, or your local service technician for a deeper look into potential causes.

[1]*CDC MMWR: Guidelines for Infection Control in Dental Health-Care Settings - 2003*