

FlashMax P3

+ + + + 86%

RATINGS:
Excellent + + + + +
Very Good + + + +
Good + + +

CMS Dental

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Description

FlashMax P3 is a high-intensity LED curing light for the polymerization of dental materials. The light output is significantly higher than most other lights at 5,000-6,000 mW/cm². **FlashMax P3** features time selections of 1 or 3 seconds and three program modes with corresponding lights to indicate program settings. It also features a temperature safety cut off and battery power saving mode. The light must be used with the disposable covers and tips included. The cover is a rigid sleeve that accepts either a 4 mm or an 8 mm curing tip. The tip snaps into the sleeve and can be moved 15° in the longitudinal direction. **FlashMax P3** requires two hours for recharging and a full charge lasts for approximately 500 seconds of use. The unit evaluated included the **FlashMax P3**, docking station/charger, power supply, 20 disposable covers, and 10 each of the 8 mm and 4 mm disposable tips. **FlashMax P3** was evaluated by 16 consultants in 642 uses. **FlashMax P3** received an 86% clinical rating.

Suggested Retail Cost \$ 1,295.00

Equipment Features

Handpiece Design/Ergonomics/Accessibility

FlashMax P3 is an angled, pen-style curing light that is very lightweight. The light can be held comfortably; buttons on both the trigger position and the topside of the unit allow for alternate hand positioning. The activation buttons could be more raised, and users would like a definite distinction between the one-second and three-second buttons. Since the tip does not swivel, the entire unit must be rotated to align over the tooth.

Curing Time

The high output of **FlashMax P3** allows a very fast cure, which was the most appreciated feature of this light, according to the consultants who evaluated it. Many consultants “bench tested” **FlashMax P3** with their composite before using it on patients, but they would like to see more independent studies that show complete curing in this short period of time.



Consultants' Comments

“Saves time. Even our patients noticed.”

“Seems to cure materials very well.”

“Light is intense enough to cure through zirconia crowns.”

“Quiet during use, but the beeps are loud.”

“Inability to rotate the tip hindered access.”

“Disposable tips are not necessary.”

Patient Comfort

Some heat is generated even during a short curing cycle, and consultants noted the importance of keeping the light off of the soft tissue to prevent discomfort or injury to the patient.

Versatility

FlashMax P3 effectively cured all of the restorative materials used during the evaluation period. This light is too intense for “tack curing” of resin cements (*comments from manufacturer: special tacking tip available*), and the heat prevented some consultants from using it to cure Class V restorations. The speed makes it ideal for use on pediatric patients.

Docking Station/Battery

The docking station provides a stable base for charging and storage of *FlashMax P3*. The magnetic grip in the dock grabs the light and holds it upright. Initial charging time is two hours, and the battery held its charge between uses.

Disinfection/Disposable Tips

The disposable sleeves and tips rated poorly; consultants found them to be hard to place, bulky, and wasteful. A light guide that could be wiped with disinfectant or covered by a barrier would be preferred.

Summary

62% of consultants found *FlashMax P3* to be equivalent to or better than their current LED light-curing unit. 31% would switch to *FlashMax P3*, and 56% would recommend it to a colleague.

Clinical Tips

- Because the curing time is so short, position the light tip exactly where needed before activation.
- Use the recommended curing times to prevent overheating the tooth.