

RE: MLA/ Ovation pipette Maintenance and Calibration Service Frequency

To our valued VistaLab customers,

We often get the question from our customers “How often must we calibrate/ service our pipettes?” While this is a seemingly simple question, the answer is more complex and dependent on several different factors.

As the manufacturer, we can only **recommend** MLA or Ovation pipettes have routine maintenance (replacing wear parts such as seals and filters) and calibration be performed at least once every 6-12 months. Depending on how often the pipette is used and what liquids it is used with, they may require more or less frequent maintenance and calibration.

For example: a pipette used once a month with water would require less frequent maintenance and calibration than a pipette used daily with hydrochloric acid.

The **required** maintenance and calibration interval (or due date) would be determined by your labs' internal quality/ regulatory system or body (FDA, CLIA, CAPP, ISO, etc). Typically, the lab will be audited on an annual basis by their quality/ regulatory system, where the auditor will check that all equipment has been maintained and calibrated according to their documented procedures and on a regular basis.

When purchasing pipettes through one of our distributors, you may receive a pipette with a calibration certificate dated several months prior to the date of purchase. Rest assured that the pipettes' factory calibration will remain valid up until it is opened and used. The required maintenance interval date would then be calculated from this date that the unit is first used/ put into service. Any concerns and you can have the pipette returned to our facility for a complimentary recalibration to receive a more current date of calibration

In conclusion, when needing to answer the question of “How often must we calibrate/ service our pipettes?”, customers should first consult with their quality/ regulatory system for the required interval that they will be audited to. If there are no quality/ regulatory systems in place, or no formal requirements, then customers should have their pipettes serviced according to our manufacturers recommendation of once every 6-12 months.

For more information, please contact Technical Support at (914) 244-4068.

Sincerely,

The VistaLab Team