Algometer Calibration

New Installations and First Time Calibration

If the algometer and the Tracker Interface Box were received in the same shipment, then the gauge has been calibrated at the factory. A calibration diskette should have been included with that shipment and installed with the program software. If the calibration diskette was installed, then only the daily calibration (see below) will be necessary to begin using PainTrack.

If the algometer was purchased as an upgrade to an existing system, or the diskette was not installed, the dynamometer must be calibrated in your office. To do this, follow the instructions below for a maintenance calibration.

Maintenance Calibration

Every six months, the software prompts for a maintenance calibration. In the meantime, if the gauge is dropped or mishandled, the calibration should be performed prior to the appearance of the software prompt. Place the algometer in its stand as pictured below, and the special calibration tip into the sleeve of the algometer. From the Main screen, select "System" and then "Calibrate" from the resulting menu. Select "Algometer" from the resulting list of devices. Ensure there is no externally applied weight on the gauge, and click the "Zero Calibrate" button in the Calibration dialog. After zero calibration is complete, place a known weight (plate weight is preferred) on the algometer as pictured below. Type the amount of weight into the dialog box, and click on the button labeled "Weight Calibrate."

Zero calibrate.

Weight calibrate.

Daily Auto Calibration

The first time the algometer is used any day the software will prompt for a "zero calibration" to compensate for any temperature changes or electronic drift which may have occurred since its last use. Remove any force from the algometer, position as above, and click "OK." If there is no time to perform the zero calibration, you may elect to put off the calibration until the next time the algometer is used by clicking on the "Postpone" button.