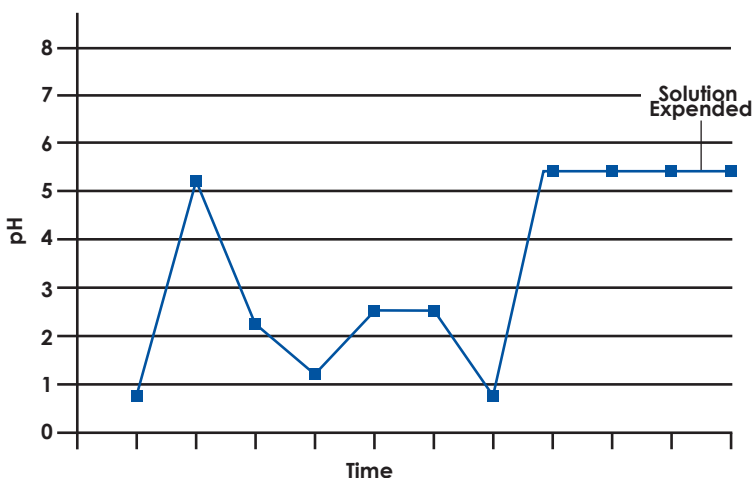


## TESTING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF RDO RAPID DECALCIFIER

Testing the effectiveness of **RDO Rapid Decalcifier** can be performed via two different methods. These recommended methods include a simple calcium carbonate spot test of the solution or by charting a trend in the pH of the solution. Perform these tests at regular intervals during the cleaning process. These tests can also be utilized for **RDO Gold Decalcifier**.

### Calcium Carbonate Spot Test

The calcium carbonate spot test is performed by simply having the solution come in contact with a form of pure calcium carbonate. The calcium carbonate utilized can be an uncoated Tums® or Roloids® tablet, or chalk. Observe the reaction of the **RDO Rapid Decalcifier** solution with the calcium carbonate. If fizzing and bubbling are observed, the **RDO Rapid Decalcifier** solution is active. A controlled comparison can be made by testing against fresh **RDO Rapid Decalcifier** solution. If there is little to no reaction, the solution has expended. This test should be performed prior to the recommended decalcification duration. If the solution has expended, the solution will not be dissolving calcium and additional **RDO Rapid Decalcifier** may be required to complete the decalcification process. However, if the solution is still active at the end of the recommended time, all of the calcium has been dissolved within the specimen and it is ready to be rinsed and fixed for observations.



### Testing the pH

The initial (baseline) pH of **RDO Rapid Decalcifier** solution will measure < 3. In order to test the effectiveness of the solution as a function of pH, it is recommended that the pH measurements be recorded at regular intervals and charted to trend. The reasons for trending is that the deposits being dissolved may cause a premature jump in the pH and give an inaccurate reading if taken only once or infrequently. After decalcification nears 75% of the recommended duration, test the pH. Continue to take readings every 10-15 minutes to develop a trend in your readings. If

the pH reads below 5.0 after the recommended circulating time, all of the calcium has been dissolved within the specimen and it is ready to be rinsed and fixed for observations. If the solution's pH remains > 5.0 on three consecutive measurements, the solution is expended and additional **RDO Rapid Decalcifier** may be required to complete the decalcification process.

If you have further questions pertaining to the effectiveness of **RDO Rapid Decalcifier**, please feel free to contact our main office.