

Cleaning and sterilization instructions

The cleaning and sterilization instructions listed below are an excerpt from the Instructions for Use (IFU).

Manual cleaning instructions

Completely submerge the instrument in a neutral to mild pH (7-8.5) enzymatic detergent intended for breakdown of blood, body fluids, and tissues. Allow to soak for 20 minutes.

Clean the instrument until all visible soil has been removed. Articulate the instrument while cleaning to expose all surfaces. Pay particular attention to crevices, lumens, mating surfaces and other hard to clean areas. Flush the cannula completely.

Rinse the instrument thoroughly in distilled or demineralized water.



Precautions

Do not cold soak in glutaraldehyde, chlorine or ammonium solutions as they may damage the finish.

Do not use metal brushes or scouring pads during the cleaning process as they will damage the surface and finish of the instruments. Use a soft-bristled nylon brush or other non-abrasive cleaning tool.

Cleaning agents must be completely rinsed from the instrument to prevent accumulation of detergent residue.

Use distilled or demineralized water during the cleaning process to prevent stains.

Automated cleaning

An automated cleaning cycle alone is not recommended but can be used in addition to the manual cleaning and disinfection instructions above.

Drying

Dry the instrument immediately after final rinse. Use filtered compressed air to dry internal areas.

Lubrication

Before each sterilization cycle, lubricate the instrument with a water-soluble lubricant appropriate for instruments being autoclaved, such as instrument milk or equivalent.

Mineral oil or silicone lubricants should not be used because they coat microorganisms, prevent direct contact of the surface with steam and are difficult to remove.

Follow the lubricant manufacturer's instructions regarding expiration dates for both stock and use-dilution concentrations.

Sterilization

Sterilizer Type: Flash gravity steam sterilization

Minimum temperature: 132°C

Full cycle time: 10 minutes

Minimum dry time: N/A

Instrument configuration: Unwrapped

Sterilizer Type: Prevacuum steam sterilization

Preconditioning pulses: 3

Minimum temperature: 132°C

Full cycle time: 4 minutes

Minimum dry time: 30 minutes

Instrument configuration: Wrapped

Sterilizer Type: Gravity steam sterilization

Minimum temperature: 132°C

Full cycle time: 15 minutes

Minimum dry time: 15 minutes

Instrument configuration: Wrapped

Post-sterilization storage

Sterile, packaged instruments should be stored in a manner that protects the integrity of the sterile barrier.

For additional information, please see Instructions for Use (IFU) for the SERPENT[®] articulating instrumentation.

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