

Training Module

Cleaning: Immersible, Flexible Endoscopes



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CAUTION: SCOPE OF TRAINING

These procedures are to be followed for immersible scopes only. Immersible scopes can be submerged from the control head to the distal end. These scopes can be recognized by a blue ring around the eyepiece.

Pre-Procedural Set-Up

Proper maintenance of your endoscopic equipment starts before the procedure even begins. Following these guidelines — and heeding cautionary notes — is the first step in managing a top-notch inventory.

- 1) Use appropriate PPE.

This includes donning face mask, gloves, and eye protective covering, per AORN standards.

- 2) Use sterile water in water bottle during procedure.

- 3) Test scope -- water, air, suction and light, as noted below.

1. Hook scope up to light/air and water source.
2. Make sure ample light is carried throughout scope to distal tip.
3. Check airflow and suction, using a 12 oz. container of distilled water. Water must flow consistently over distal tip.

Post-Procedural Take-Down

After procedure, rinse with distilled water and clean residue. Wipe down the external portion of the scope.

- 1) Pressure Test, using the IRN Pump Gauge Pressure Tester

- 1) Connect the venting ETO cap to the venting/ETO valve connector of the endoscope.
- 2) Ensure that the red valve lever on the back of the gauge is in the closed position (i.e., "up" position).

Training Module: Cleaning: Immersible, Flexible Endoscopes

3. Pump the bulb of the gauge until the needle holds steady in the green zone (i.e., 160-200 mm hg).

4. Observations:

- If the needle holds steady for a period of 2 minutes, the instrument is airtight. The instrument can be submerged to double check if required. Otherwise dry off and reduce pressure to 0 mm hg by opening (i.e. in the “down position”) the lever at the back of the gauge. Move on to next step.
- If the needle falls slowly, the instrument can be submerged to locate the leak. Otherwise dry off and reduce pressure to 0 mm hg by opening (i.e. in the “down position”) the lever at the back of the gauge. Call IRN immediately for service.
- If the needle falls rapidly or pressure cannot be maintained at all, do NOT submerge or allow the instrument to come into contact with fluid at all. Call IRN immediately for service.

Cleaning

- 1) To avoid blood and other proteins from sticking to endoscope surfaces, an enzymatic cleaner bath (soak) should be used. After soaking for at least 10 minutes, rinse endoscope under running distilled water.
- 2) Wash outside of scope with cleaning solution and sponges.
- 3) Rinse thoroughly -- internally (flushing all channels) and externally with distilled water - NOT tap water.
- 4) Wash tables with surface disinfectant solution.



REMEMBER: SUCTION CANISTER

Change suction canister and any disposable suction tubes after each use. Deposit in proper biohazard container.

Disinfect

- 1) Use appropriate PPE. This includes donning face mask, gloves, and eye protective covering, per AORN standards. Protect eyes, lungs, and skin.

Training Module: Cleaning: Immersible, Flexible Endoscopes

2) Place scope in glutaraldehyde solution for 20 minutes minimum, 40 minutes maximum.



CAUTION: 40 MINUTE MAXIMUM

Scopes left in solution longer than 40 minutes begin to show signs of wear on adhesives and certain components of the endoscopes.

3) Remove and rinse with distilled water - internal and external.



WARNING: GLUTARALDEHYDE

Be sure all glutaraldehyde solution is out of scope. This is for patient safety and scope integrity.

4) Change glutaraldehyde solution as noted by manufacture



REMEMBER: TEST EACH DAY

Use test strips to test glutaraldehyde each day, or after 4 endoscopic cleanings, whichever comes first.