

REPROCESSING OF SURGICAL INSTRUMENTS



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INSTRUCTIONS FOR CLEANING AND STERILIZATION OF SURGICAL INSTRUMENTS

Please read the following instructions very carefully before using the instruments.

1. INITIAL USE

All instruments which are being used for the first time must be thoroughly cleaned, rinsed and then sterilized before using.

2. TREATING INSTRUMENTS AFTER USAGE

- a.) The instruments might be immediately thoroughly cleaned and disinfected.
Please follow the manufacturer's instructions when using cleaning agents and disinfectants.
- b.) Instruments which may be dismantled must be cleaned and disinfected after being taken apart.
- c.) Cleaning may be carried out either manually or with a machine. Care should be taken that only cleaning agents and disinfectants are used, which are changed daily.
- d.) Following chemical disinfection and manual cleaning, all instruments must always be thoroughly rinsed under running water.
- e.) The temperature of water used in a machine for cleaning should not exceed 45°C.
- f.) Whether cleaning is carried out manually or by machine, we especially ask you to ensure that the correct dosage for cleaning solutions or the correct combination of disinfectant and cleaning solution is employed. Similar importance should be applied to the length of time the agents require to perform properly and to the temperature set.
- g.) Hinged instruments should be opened before cleaning.
- h.) Please ensure that the perforated instrument trays, when loaded, do not exceed 10 kg in weight.
- i.) Please take care that when instruments are being cleaned they are arranged proper in a mane that fluids can circulate freely.
- j.) Deposits remaining after the cleaning process must be completely removed in the first rinse which now follows. The optimum temperature for final rinsing has proved to be between 70° and 90° C. Please use only purified water in this final cleaning stage.
- k.) The instruments must be carefully dried after cleaning and rinsing is completed.
- l.) Moving parts and the cutting edges of shears and scissors must be treated with preservatives which are both suitable and physiologically safe.

3. TESTING FOR CORRECT FUNCTIONING

- a.) Instruments must be carefully and thoroughly checked before every occasion that they are used.
- b.) After each time they are cleaned, the instruments must be macroscopically clean, i.e., visibly free from protein based residues and other soiling.
- c.) Care should be taken so that cracks, breakages and corrosion are noticed.
- d.) Instruments with flecks should be separated and taken out for special treatment.
- e.) All moving parts as well as working tips and blades should be checked with special care.
- f.) Checking should be carried out according to the extent to which the instruments will be used.
- g.) Instruments which are in any way defective or damaged should be immediately sorted out from the others.

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4. STERILIZATION

- a.) All stainless steel surgical instruments supplied by us may be sterilized in an autoclave.
- b.) Please follow the manufacturer's operating instructions when using autoclave.
All machines used must comply with all current quality and other standards.
- c.) Instruments are being sterilized/ autoclaved at a temperature of 137°C.
- d.) Sterilization time: minimum 5 minutes.
- d.) Sterilization packing material must comply with all current standards.
- e.) Instruments with ratchets or self-retaining mechanisms should be sterilized opened or in the first ratchet position.
- f.) Please ensure that perforated instrument trays, when loaded do not exceed 10 kg in weight.

Water quality

The water quality used for product reprocessing has a great influence on the preservation o value. Differing drinking water qualities (types and concentrations of the ingredients) depending on the water hardness and temperature, can cause difficult-to-dissolve hardness deposits, corrosion and discoloration on the products. The concentration of the water ingredients varies depending on the source and type of drinking water treatment. When water evaporates these ingredients remain in the form of a salt crust. Amongst these ingredients chlorides are particularly critical.

IMPORTANT !

Excessive chloride concentrations cause pitting corrosion on stainless steel !

To avoid this when machine--cleaning products, we recommend using fully demineralised water of a defined water quality in accordance with DIN EN 285, Appendix B for the final rinsing.

Extract from table B1: Contamination in the water supply

Evaporation residues	≤10 mg/l
Silicon oxide, SiO ₂	≤1 mg/l
Iron	≤0.2 mg/l
Lead	≤0.005 mg/l
Traces of heavy metal with the exception of iron, cadmium, lead	≤0.1 mg/l
Chloride (Cl ⁻)	≤2 mg/l
Phosphates (P ₂ O ₅)	≤0.5 mg/l
Conductivity (at 20 °C)*	≤15 μS/cm
pH value (degree of acidity)	5 to 7
Color	colorless clear without residues
Hardness Σ (alkaline earth ions)	≤0.02 mmol/l

5. IN GENERAL

- a.) All surgical instruments supplied by us have been thoroughly inspected before dispatch and leave our factory in perfect condition. Damage which can arise as a result of transporting, cleaning, preserving, sterilizing or storing, must be prevented.
- b.) Please handle surgical instruments always with the utmost care.
- c.) Instruments must be stored in a clean and dry place.
- d.) Please don't mix dissimilar metals during the cleaning and autoclaving process.

We should like to point out that, if the above-mentioned directions are not followed or the instruments supplied by us are not properly used, all guarantee claims become void and any consequences must be borne by your selves.

Federal law restricts this device to sale by or on the order of a practitioner licensed by law.