

List of CDS Related Guidance

Processing Requirements for Thermolabile Flexible Endoscopes



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Processing Requirements for Thermolabile Flexible Endoscopes

Australia



Procedure Room	Decontamination Area			
Precleaning	Manual Cleaning*	Manual Disinfection or EWD	Drying/Storage/Sterilization	Source
<p>Immediately after finishing patient's procedure</p> <p>By wiping the outer surface of the insertion tube with a soft, disposable cloth/sponge and using detergent or water (A/W channels) to flush/suck all channels until the aspirant is clear</p> <p>The volume of fluid to be aspirated through the instrument/suction channels is 250 ml or as determined by the EWD manufacturer</p>	<p>Manual cleaning or beginning of the EWD cleaning cycle should occur without delay, ideally within 15 minutes, but it must be within 1 hour</p> <p>Automated cleaning is recommended as the optimal process</p> <p>Enzymatic or biofilm-removing detergents: solution should not be reused</p> <p>Once brushed, valves should undergo ultrasonic cleaning</p> <p>For rinsing use of clean (potable) water, i.e., tap water that has been freshly drawn and not used for any other endoscope</p> <p>Visual inspection of the endoscope after manual cleaning + rinsing/air purge</p>	<p>Manually or EWD processing, whereas EWD processing is state of the art; EWD is mandated for HLD and LCS</p> <p>Predominant use of PAA-based disinfectants, but also GDA- or hydrogen-peroxide-based disinfectants</p> <p>Visual inspection after EWD before storage</p>	<p>After completion of HLD in EWD, endoscopes should be immediately stored in CESC unless being immediately used for another procedure</p> <p>Drying: Forced-air drying of the channels, either manually for 10 minutes with regulated, compressed air, or preferably within a TGA-approved forced-air or channel-purge endoscope drying cabinet (CESC)</p> <p>The maximum time within which an endoscope may be used after removal from the CESC is 12 hours (even if stored in a sealed container). After 12 hours, the endoscope should undergo a full reprocessing cycle</p> <p>Storage: The maximum allowable storage time before reprocessing required is 7 days. Storage time can be adjusted for cabinets that have TGA approval for storage of longer than 7 days</p> <p>Sterilization: H₂O₂ sterilization is used as low-temperature sterilization of compatible (critical) endoscopes</p>	<p>National Health and Medical Research Council:</p> <p>Australian Guidelines for the Prevention and Control of Infection in Healthcare (2019)</p> <p>https://www.nhmrc.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/infection-control-guidelines-feb2020.pdf</p> <p>Gastroenterological Society of Australia (GESA):</p> <p>Infection Prevention and Control in Endoscopy (2021)</p> <p>https://www.gesa.org.au/education/clinical-information/</p>

Legend:

EWD – endoscope washer-disinfector (chemo-thermal mechanical/automatic cleaning and disinfection)/AER – automated endoscope reprocessor
 GDA – glutardialdehyde
 PAA – peracetic acid
 OPA – ortho-phthalaldehyde
 ClO₂ – chlorine dioxide

LCS – liquid chemical sterilization
 EtO – ethylene oxide
 LTSF – low-temperature steam formaldehyde
 H₂O₂ – hydrogen peroxide
 OR – operating room
 EHEF – European Hygiene Experts Forum
 HLD – high-level disinfection

TGA – Therapeutic Goods Administration
 Sterilant – chemical (high-level disinfectant) that has been cleared as capable of destroying all viable microorganisms, including bacterial spores (mainly relevant for Americas)
 Process chemical use life
 Process chemical shelf life

*Mandatory, even in the case of EWD processing

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As medical knowledge is constantly growing, technical modifications or changes of the product design, product specifications, accessories and service offerings may be required. This quick reference guide is a mere summary of some important procedure steps and/or product information. It is not meant to replace the instructions for use. Any user of this product must at all times observe all mandatory information for the product, found, in particular, on the labels and the instructions for use.

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