CLEANING & CARE RIGID ENDOSCOPES



For maximum durability.

Rigid endoscopes are precision devices that must be treated with great care and this is especially true for cleaning. The optics are usually supplied non-sterile, so make sure that they are thoroughly cleaned and sterilised before and after each use.

1) Pre-cleaning

First, disconnect the endoscope from the camera head and fiber cable. Next remove all adapters from the inlet port. Before any chemical disinfection or sterilisation, all dirt particles must be removed from the endoscope. The endoscope must then be wiped with a cleaning or disinfecting solution. In addition, the optical glasses must be cleaned with pure alcohol, preferably with a cotton pad or stick.

If an endoscope has a working channel, carefully clean it (with a cleaning brush) before disinfection and/or sterilisation. The working channel should be clear of any contamination.

Important instructions:

- **1a)** Rigid endoscopes **must never be cleaned in ultrasonic baths.**
- 1b) The success of sterilisation depends on the standard of previous cleaning, so never sterilise non purified endoscopes.
- **1c)** To avoid damaging effects on components of the endoscope, always use **demineralised water**.
- **1d)** In general, rigid endoscopes should be cleaned immediately **after each use**. If this is not possible, the optics should be placed in a cleaning solution until disinfection.

2) Chemical disinfection

Endoscopes can be inserted into a special cleaning solution designed specifically for rigid endoscopes. These mostly enzymatic cleaning solutions are only available in specialist stores (e.g. cleaning solution, item no. 307315).

Important instructions:

- **2a)** The insertion time of 45 minutes (as recommended by the manufacturer) must not be exceeded. This also applies to all cleaning additives. Always follow manufacturer instructions.
- 2b) If the correct cleaning procedure is not followed, deposits may remain on the optical system. It is very important to adhere to the cleaning instructions, especially where cleaning additives are concerned.

NOTE:

Rigid endoscopes must never be cleaned or sterilised together with other equipment and instruments. We recommend (where possible) that you have a spare endoscope available when using a rigid endoscope. This will reduce the risk during examinations and surgical procedures.



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