

Protocol for handling dirty instruments

1. Wearing gloves, we place dirty instruments from the exam room into an OSHA approved transport container and take to the dirty utility room.
2. Place dirty instruments into stainless steel bowl containing, 1 gallon of water and 2oz of Low Suds Liquid Instrument Cleaner ordered from McKesson. Titrate the volume of water use in the bowl.
3. Let the instruments soak in solution for 10-20 minutes.
4. After the soaking process is completed, apply gloves and pick up instruments and use the scrub brush to get off any debris. Wear gown, eye protection, mask and gloves when handling dirty instruments.
5. Place instruments into the Sonic Cleaner, containing a heated Multi-Enzymatic Cleanser, ordered from McKesson, for 20 minutes. (Follow directions on the bottle.)
6. After cycle is completed, apply gloves and take lid off of Sonic and pick up tray containing instruments.
7. Rinse instruments with water and then place them on a blue towel, located by the Sonic.
8. Instruments will then air dry.
9. Once instruments are dry, add Miltex spray lubricant to joints of instruments, ordered from McKesson, and place them into a Self-Seal Sterilization Pouch, ordered from McKesson.
10. Seal the Sterilization Pouch and on the white tab you will write the date and your initials.
11. Place instruments into the Autoclave, for 30 minutes at 250° Fahrenheit. Instruments will then dry for 60 minutes in the autoclave. If the autoclaves are full, place sealed instrument packet in plastic container on counter labeled "Instruments to be autoclaved."
12. After the cycle is done, put on the protective heat-resistant gloves and place the instruments onto a metal rack on the counter in order to complete the drying. Verify that the indicator at the top of each package turns dark prior to putting the cooled dried instruments into the storage cart.

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