



Society of Gastroenterology Nurses and Associates, Inc.

POSITION STATEMENT

Reprocessing of Water Bottles Used During Endoscopy

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Definitions

For the purpose of this document, SGNA has adopted the following definitions:

Reprocessing refers to the sequence of cleaning, lubrication (if necessary), and high-level disinfection or sterilization that will assure an endoscopic accessory is patient-ready (American Society for Testing and Materials [ASTM], 2007; SGNA, 2008).

Water Bottle refers to the water container, cap, and tubing that attaches to a flexible endoscope.

Background

There is limited research available on the proper cleaning and reprocessing of water bottles used in endoscopy. SGNA encourages research on the topic to better define guidelines for the proper reprocessing of the water bottle.

Position

SGNA supports the following positions:

A. Water bottles should be manually cleaned and high-level disinfected or sterilized (according to manufacturer's recommendations) on a daily basis. Prior to storage, there should be no residual fluid or moisture remaining in the water bottle assembly. It is recommended that practitioners thoroughly dry all water bottle surfaces to reduce the potential for bacterial colonization (Alvarado, Reichelderfer, & the Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology Guidelines Committees, 2000; American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy [ASGE], 2008; Nelson et al., 2003; SGNA, 2009).

B. Sterile water should be used in the water bottle for all endoscopic procedures (Alvarado et al., 2000; ASGE, 2008).

Reprocessing Water Bottles

References

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Recommended Reading

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