

Heemstra, Sarah

From: Heemstra, Sarah
Sent: Tuesday, February 19, 2019 1:18 PM
To: Heemstra, Sarah
Subject: Infection Prevention Champions Program: Time Constraints

Infection Prevention Champions Program



Dear Champion,

This next letter will review barriers to timely reprocessing and information to consider when delays have occurred.

Initial precleaning should always occur immediately following the procedure to ensure that patient fluids and debris do not begin to dry and harden on the endoscope external surfaces and within the endoscope channels. Reprocessing is considered delayed if the manual cleaning process has not been started within one hour of the precleaning step. Delayed reprocessing results in patient fluids or debris drying onto the surface of the endoscope and may render the standard reprocessing procedure ineffective. In this case, the endoscope should be reprocessed according to the instructions provided in the endoscope manual for "Presoak for Excessive Bleeding and/or Delayed Reprocessing." This procedure has been included in most flexible endoscope manuals and should be performed as an additional reprocessing step after precleaning and leak testing, but prior to manual cleaning.

One should check with the endoscope manufacturer for the recommended time for immersion of the endoscope in a detergent solution. Unnecessary long-term immersion should be avoided. Routine, prolonged soaking of the flexible endoscope may result in damage to the instrument. The endoscope manufacturers cannot test all of the detergent/enzymatic solutions available on the market for safe immersion times. We recommend the manufacturer of the detergent/enzymatic solution be contacted for additional information specific to the use of their product on the flexible endoscope.

Points to remember:

- It is imperative to follow the temperature and concentration recommendation by the detergent/enzymatic manufacturer.
- The endoscope must be completely immersed and all channels flushed with the detergent/enzymatic solution.
- All the attachments and accessories must be removed from the endoscope.
- Allow the endoscope to soak in the detergent/enzymatic solution until the debris is loosened for the specified time.
- Avoid soaking longer than the specified soak time.
- Remove endoscope from detergent/enzymatic solution and manually clean according to the procedure described by the endoscope manufacturer.

For additional questions, please contact your local sales representative or technical assistance center.

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Requirements should either be emailed to Champions@sgna.org or faxed to 312-673-6694 as due. The following are the assignments for the next two weeks:

1. Continue to develop and implement infection prevention education for your peers (total of 120 minutes)
2. Seek Opportunities to educate yourself on infection prevention topics (total of 180 minutes).

These bi-monthly emails will be [archived](#) for you to access as needed.

As always, SGNA is available for any questions or difficulties you may have.

Sincerely,
The SGNA Infection Prevention Work Group

The Infection Prevention Champions Program is generously supported by Boston Scientific.



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