Environment of Care
Safety Considerations

**Endoscope storage**
Hang freely to prevent damage or contamination by physical impact and stored according to endoscope and storage cabinet manufacturers’ instructions for use.

**Separation**
Reprocessing area physically separate from the patient procedure rooms and dedicated to reprocessing activities.

**Air handling**
Temperature and humidity regulated according to local and facility requirements and CDC guidelines.

**Space**
Sufficient to accommodate people, activities, and growth.

**Plumbing and drains**
Reprocessing areas have dedicated plumbing and drains, more than one sink and separate handwashing facilities. Sinks are deep enough to allow complete immersion of the endoscope and wide enough to avoid tight coiling of the endoscope.

**Endoscope storage**
8-10 INCHES
Sterile supplies and medications
Stored at least 8-10 inches from the floor and in such a manner to prevent splash contamination during environmental cleaning.

**Eating and drinking**
Only occur in designated areas.

**Hazardous chemical spills**
Written policies on handling hazardous chemicals. Staff trained and have documented competencies on chemicals used.

Content is based on highlights from the SGNA Standard of Infection Prevention in the Gastroenterology Setting, 2019. Review the entire Standard for more specific information.

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