



Nursing Service Guidelines Endoscopy Unit

Title: **PRE-SOAK FOR EXCESSIVE BLEEDING AND/OR DELAYED REPROCESSING**

Responsibility: Endoscopy Staff (RN, LPN & Endo Techs)

Purpose of Guidelines: The purpose is to provide standardization for pre-soaking endoscopes to remove organic material when scopes are heavily soiled or there is more than 1-hour delay between point-of-use cleaning and manual cleaning or manual cleaning.

Supplies needed:

1. Appropriate personal protective equipment
2. Clean basin or sink
3. Detergent

Procedure:

1. Fill a basin with detergent solution at temperature and concentration recommended by the detergent manufacturer. Use a basin which allows the endoscope to be completely immersed.
2. Carefully coil the endoscope and completely immerse it in the detergent solution.
3. Fill all the channels with detergent solution following the manufacturer's recommendations.
4. Soak the endoscope for one hour at the temperature recommended by the detergent manufacturer.
5. Manually clean the endoscope per manufacturer guidelines.
6. Channel check the endoscope: if it does not pass, repeat steps 1-6 until it passes.
7. Rinse, dry, inspect and then proceed to high level disinfection.

WARNING

The procedure described in the “Pre-soak for Excessive Bleeding and/or Delayed Reprocessing” guideline is not intended for routine reprocessing. Since the endoscope is soaked for an extended period during this procedure, it should be utilized only when necessary. Routine, prolonged soaking of flexible endoscopes may result in damage to the instrument.

Reviewed by: Danielle Crosby, RN, Operations Supervisor, Endoscopy
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