



## Nursing Service Guidelines for Operating Room

- Title:** **CLEANING AND HIGH-LEVEL DISINFECTING DAMAGED ENDOSCOPE EQUIPMENT TO SEND FOR REPAIR: KARL STORZ**
- Responsibility:** OR Nurses and Surgical Technicians
- Purpose of Guidelines:** To explain how to safely prepare and send damaged Karl Storz endoscopes and equipment to biomedical engineering for repair. Damaged endoscopes must be cleaned. When possible, it also must be high-level disinfected or sterilized prior to shipment.

\* The pressure compensation cap (Z10455) must be in place on the vent port of flexible endoscopes during shipping. Send cap to Biomed with the damaged endoscope.

### **Procedure:**

#### **RIGID ENDOSCOPES**

Reprocess damaged rigid endoscopes according to the manufacturer's IFU which includes the steps of cleaning, high-level disinfection and/or sterilization. Rigid endoscopes are reprocessed by the sterile processing department and manufacturer's IFUs are available for sterile processing staff to follow.

#### **FLEXIBLE ENDOSCOPES**

Damaged flexible endoscopes that are still watertight should be reprocessed according to the manufacturer's IFU.

#### ***Guidelines for CLEANING Flexible Endoscopes that FAIL LEAK TEST***

1. Keep endoscope connected to leak tester to prevent fluid from entering.
2. Before removing the endoscope from water, identify the leak location.
3. With the leak tester connected, remove endoscope from water.
4. Turn off leak tester and wait 30 seconds for the endoscope to depressurize.

#### **A. Leaks in the Covering of Insertion Tube that ARE SEALABLE with Tape**

1. If the leak found on the exterior of the flexible endoscope can be sealed with waterproof tape, do so and continue with manual cleaning and high-level disinfection. Do not wrap tape so tightly as to cause damage.
2. Immerse endoscope in fresh cleaning solution and continue with process according to manufacturer's IFU.
3. Keep damaged endoscope apart from operational endoscopes to prevent reuse before repair.

## **B. Leaks in the Covering of Insertion Tube that ARE NOT Sealable with Tape**

1. If the leak found on the exterior of the flexible endoscope CANNOT be sealed with waterproof tape, do not submerge the endoscope.
2. Detach leak tester and thoroughly wipe the endoscope at the leak location with cleaning solution and a lint-free cloth to remove all visible debris. Brush the channel with the channel cleaning brush.
3. Do NOT proceed to manual high-level disinfection.
4. Keep damaged endoscope apart from operational endoscopes to prevent reuse before repair.

### ***Guidelines for MANUAL HIGH-LEVEL DISINFECTION of Flexible Endoscopes Failing Leak Test but Sealed with Waterproof Tape***

1. Fill a basin deep enough to fully immerse endoscope with disinfectant solution according to the manufacturer's IFU.
2. Remove the pressure compensation cap (Z10455).
3. Immerse endoscope in disinfectant solution according to manufacturer's IFU.
4. Continue to perform manual high-level disinfection according to manufacturer's IFU.
6. Minimize unnecessary flexion of the insertion tube.

**\*CAUTION:** Leaking flexible endoscopes cannot be effectively cleaned, high-level disinfected and must be handled and shipped by biomed as a contaminated device.

For additional questions, call Karl Storz at 1-800-421-0837 or contact your local Karl Storz rep.

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