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# SURGICAL INSTRUMENTS

#### **Instructions**

- Check all instructions for use and sterilization of new instruments. Unless
- Lubricate after cleaning with a proprietary water-soluble instrument lubricant. Follow approved cleaning procedure of hospital.

Do not use corrosive cleaning agents. We recommend cleaning solutions and rinses Do not use abrasive cleaners & brushes with hard bristles.

Use distilled water for rinsing only. Water with chloride contents may damage or Do not leave instruments in cleaning or disinfecting solutions for long terms (over Ensure all instruments are only used for the purpose for which they were designed. Handle all instruments gently. Never overstrain, drop or misuse them. Check all instruments for damage after use.

Give special attention to microsurgical instruments. Their fine tips can easily be damaged by contact with other instruments or the sides of the case in which they should be kept. Hand cleaning is preferable. Ensure all instruments are thoroughly dried before being stored.

Pack instruments carefully with the heavier ones lying on a piece of cloth or towel at the bottom.

Store and sterilize bow-handled instruments on a special holder. Always leave racks and ratchets open.

Check the hardness of the water used in the autoclave. Too hard water will leave a deposit on the instruments.

If a water softener is used ensure it is at the manufacturers recommended level. Too much may cause discoloration or pitting.

#### Sterilization

Instruments should be sterilized by moist heat sterilization method with 270 °(132°C) for 15 minutes prior to use in surgery. It is recommended that sterilization temperatures should not exceed 280°F (137°C).

## Warnings

Misuse instruments or overstrain joints or racks.

Use abrasives on instruments, as this will spoil the surface finish. This may later cause discoloration, rusting or pitting.

Handle instruments by their tips. These should be cleaned by trained personnel only who will ensure the delicate working ends are adequately protected during storage or sterilization.

Pack instruments with other, heavier instruments. Remember always - heavy instruments on the bottom and light instruments on the top.

Use general-purpose oils for instruments; only water-soluble lubricants should be Leave instruments soaking longer than necessary in chemical sterilizing solutions. After they have been sterilized they should be washed thoroughly in warm water to remove all traces of the chemicals to prevent discoloration or pitting.

Store damp instruments. They must be thoroughly dried first.

### **Disposal**

No special decomposition or disposal required for Surgical Instruments as they don't contain any toxic or hazardous material; the material stainless steel is recyclable in ordinary steel manufacturing units.





