



SURGICAL INSTRUMENT INSTRUCTIONS FOR CARE

Surgical Instruments



General Instrument Care:

Quala Instruments are manufactured from surgical grade stainless steel, which offers superior durability and corrosion resistance, but they can be damaged if exposed to certain corrosive chemicals or conditions. The following chemicals should not be used to clean or disinfect Quala Surgical instruments:

- Sodium Hypochlorite (bleach)
- Tartaric Acid (Tartar & Stain Remover)
- Chemical Chlorides
- Citric Acid
- Iodine
- Lysol
- Hydrochloric Acid
- Mercury Salts
- Phenol
- Potassium Permanganate
- Potassium Thiocyanate
- Aqua Regia
- Sulfuric Acid

Hinged instruments should be kept lubricated to prevent rust, corrosion, and stiff joints and to ensure smooth operation.

Cleaning and Disinfection:

All instruments should be thoroughly cleaned after each use and before sterilization using one of the methods listed below:

- Ultrasonic Cleaning
- Automated Washing Equipment
- Manual scrubbing in warm soapy water
- Corrosive cleaners and detergents should not be used due to risk of chemical reactions with the stainless steel.
- Abrasive bristle (wire) brushes are not recommended as the surface finish of the instrument could be damaged.
- Hinged instruments should be lubricated after cleaning and rinsing and before sterilization. Hinged instruments must be sterilized in the 'open' position to ensure effective sterilization of the hinge area.
- All instruments must be thoroughly dried before sterilization

Sterilization:

All instruments should be sterilized in a commercial sterilization pouch or instrument cassette according to the following parameters:

- Steam Autoclave cycle of 20 minutes @ 121°C.
- Unsaturated Chemical Vapor cycle of 20 minutes @ 132°C.
- Dry Heat Sterilization cycle of 90 minutes @ 160°C.
- Instruments should never be sterilized along with non-stainless steel metal items.

Water quality may influence the result of the cleaning and disinfection of the instruments. Corrosion could be caused by high contents of chloride or other minerals in the tap water. If problems with stains and corrosion occur and other reasons can be excluded, it might be necessary to test the tap water quality in your area. With the use of completely deionized or distilled water most water quality problems can be avoided beforehand.