

Preparation (Cleaning / Disinfection / Sterilization) of

Classic+ Fiber Optic Laryngoscope Blades

The following recommendations must be followed in procedures in hospitals and practices, for instance with regard to national guidelines, recommendations, standards and legal requirements. Preparation must be carried out by qualified personnel.

The instruments must go through a complete cycle of preparation – cleaning / disinfection, inspection and sterilisation before they are used on the patient.

Preparation at the point of use / Initial Cleaning

Residues and other deposits must be removed immediately after use, for example by wiping or brushing with a soft plastic brush. This must be carried out immediately after use to avoid any residue drying on to the instrument. Such encrusted deposits can make cleaning difficult and may affect the surface of the instrument.

Manual disinfection and cleaning

For manual cleaning and disinfection, only those products which are approved for use on medical devices made of **stainless steel** and **fiber optics** may be used. The manufacturer's recommendations for use must be followed to avoid material damage / corrosion.

After treatment, the instrument must be thoroughly rinsed with de-mineralised water to avoid surface residues.

Caution: Never immerse blades in physiological saline solutions or any cleaning / disinfecting detergents which contain hydrogen peroxide (e.g. Cidex PA, Sporox, Virox3, peroxide bleaches) or halide ions (especially chlorides, but also iodides) or any other caustic ingredients (e.g. scrub solution).

Machine cleaning and disinfection / Thermal Disinfection

The blades can be machine-cleaned and disinfected at up to 93 °C. Only products which are approved for use on medical devices made of stainless steel and fiber optics may be used.

The instructions of the manufacturer of both machines and detergents must be followed. The machine should be loaded correctly so that the cleaning procedure is successful. Rinsing procedures must ensure that no deposits are left. The final rinse should be carried out using de-mineralised water.

Ultrasonic Cleaning

Caution: Blades with **fiber optic bundles** must not be cleaned by ultrasonic. The instrument may suffer irreparable damage.

Inspection

Damaged instruments should be taken out of circulation.

Sterilisation

We recommend the sterilization with **saturated steam at 134 °C for 5 minutes.**

Cycles of 18 minutes or even 60 minutes in specified cases should not damage the metal part of the blade.

There may be a reduction in light transmission with frequent / repeated long-term steam sterilisation, particularly if the steam quality is not ideal.

Caution: Do not sterilize Blades in same tray / in close contact to sub-standard stainless steel surgical instruments. Such instruments can rust and cause subsequent corrosive damages on blades.

Caution: Due to problems associated with rapid cooling, Flash sterilization is not an approved method of Blade sterilization. Blades damaged due to Flash Sterilization will not be covered under warranty.

Low temperature **Gas-Plasma-Sterilization** (Sterrad®; Steris®) and Gas Sterilization with **Ethylene oxide** (subject to the usual procedure laid down for anaesthetic devices) are permitted for Laryngoscope blades.

For general Information in regard to Re-Processing of instruments, visit the website www.a-k-i.org issued by the "Instrument Preparation Working group"

Caution: The only approved method of permanently marking HEINE Laryngoscope Blades is manufacturer approved acid etching. Please call for details. Use mechanical engraving will void warranty.