
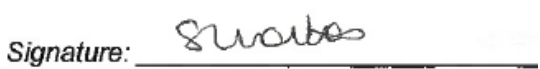




Children's Health Ireland

MANAGEMENT OF ENDOSCOPE USED OUT OF HOURS


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Update to: Definition of Terms, Objective, Responsibility, Procedure, Note, Appendix 1	

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1.0 Introduction

The document outlines the procedure to be followed for the management of all flexible endoscopes used out of hours. Ensure all RIMD (Reusable Invasive Medical Device) sets including flexible scopes are traced through the decontamination process to the service user and ensuring RIMD are inspected and reprocessed in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

2.0 Definition of Terms

Out of Hours: After 5pm Monday to Friday and at weekends / bank holidays

Endoscopes: A medical device consisting of a long, thin, flexible (or rigid) tube, which has a light and video camera. In the theatre department, the following are used:

- Olympus™ Gastroscopes and Colonoscopes
- Pentax™ Gastroscopes and Colonoscopes
- Flexible Bronchoscopes
- Pentax™ Bronchoscopes

Wassenburg Endoscope Washer Disinfector (EWD) provides automated high-level disinfection and decontamination of flexible endoscopes between patient procedures with complete validation and traceability of all cycles.

There are 2 x EWDs available for processing endoscopes.

These are located in the Theatre Decontamination Room and the other EWD is in the Out Patient's room beside St. Anne's Dressing Clinic in the Medical Tower.

3.0 Objective


The purpose of this document is to provide a guideline for out of hour's management of used endoscopes.

"Best practice identifies that endoscopes must be reprocessed immediately after the patient procedure has been carried out to minimise the risk of infection transmission to patients. The period of time that an Endoscope can be safely reprocessed outside of the requirement for immediate reprocessing has not been determined by evidence based research".

"It is best practice for hospitals to have trained staff available to reprocess flexible endoscopes used for emergency out of hour's unplanned procedures".

"It is not acceptable to leave an endoscope, which has been used out of hours for an unplanned emergency procedure, without undergoing full reprocessing the following morning".

"Regardless of whether Endoscopes are used out of hours or within normal working hours, the standards of decontamination must be the same to ensure patient safety".

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4.0 Responsibility

This document affects all nursing staff in the Operating Theatre Department who use an endoscope and operate the EWD out of hours. Staff who are involved in the decontamination of flexible endoscope must be adequately trained and meet the competencies needed to safely reprocess flexible endoscopes" refer to relevant SOP for *"Leak Testing & Manual Cleaning of Olympus / Pentax Gastroscope & Colonoscope Post Procedure"*.


"Note: If an unplanned emergency Endoscopic procedure for example a gastric bleed, is performed out of hours, an individual with knowledge of the Endoscope decontamination process must be available to prepare and clean equipment (BSG, 2017)"

5.0 Procedure

- The endoscope must be leak tested and manually washed as per relevant SOP for *"Leak Testing & Manual Cleaning of Olympus / Pentax Gastroscope & Colonoscope Post Procedure"*.
- Load the endoscope into the EWD and proceed with the cycle as per *"Procedure for Loading and Unloading Endoscopes from Extended Storage Cabinet"*.
- If a flexible bronchoscope was used and it is the only size available to the department, this bronchoscope must be loaded into the Extended Storage Cabinet as per SOP for *"Procedure for Loading and Unloading Endoscopes from Extended Storage Cabinet"*.
- For endoscopes used on a patient with a known or suspected Infection Control Alert, follow SOP for *"Management of Endoscope Used on a Patient with Known or Suspected Infection Control Alert"*.
- Friday evening, weekends & bank holidays water samples and swab of scopes **must** be done and endoscopes quarantined as per document, see Appendix 1.
- Thermal disinfect of the relevant side of EWD also **must** be carried out especially if there is an endoscopy list on the following morning.
- If time allows, take water sample from the EWD if required, see document Appendix 1. Otherwise, leave a note on the EWD and in the on-call **communication sheet** to take water sampling before using the EWD the following day.
- A very clear communication note must be left in the On-Call Communication Folder if any of the above processes have not been completed for follow up.

6.0 Note

- If there is a fault with the Theatre EWD, the endoscope needs to be processed in the EWD in the Out Patient's room beside St. Anne's Dressing Clinic in the Medical Tower.
- Place the washed endoscope into the hard box covered with clean-a-scope liner and cover with a red liner.
- Bring the appropriate connectors for the endoscope and the manual wash book as you will need to scan in the health care record (HCR) number into the EWD.
- Decontaminate the hard box after the endoscope has been loaded into the EWD.
- Bring a second clean-a-scope liner, sterile gloves and sterile gauze if this endoscope is needed again (bronchoscope) or if it needs to be water sampled / swabbed post infection control (IC) alert.

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- If the endoscope has been used on an IC alert patient, you must do a thermal disinfection cycle / take water sample if required from EWD (see Appendix 1). If this is not done, leave a clear communication note on the EWD with the IC alert details.
- If there is no water supply to the Wassenburg Washer Room as the hot water supply shuts off 8pm Friday evenings, please note the following:
 - Key to switch on the water supply is hanging up over the sink right side of wall in this room.
 - Key is labelled, "RO" water room key.
 - The room is next to the Wassenburg Wash Room and the machine is called "*Biopure Elga*", switch is the white button on the blue pad in the right upper corner.
 - Bleep the On Call Clinical Engineer on duty to assist if necessary.

7.0 References

- HSE Standards and Recommended Practices for Operational Management of Endoscope Decontamination Facilities 2019
- SOP's Operating Theatre Department Endoscopy 2019
- Wassenburg Endoscope Washer Disinfector User Manual 2013
- HSE Guidance Note for the Management of Endoscopes Used Out of Hours for Unplanned Emergency Procedure QPSD-GL-020-1 2016

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8.0 Appendices

Appendix 1



Operating Theatre Department

Endoscope & Environment Screening for Microbiology

SOURCE	SCOPE			WASHER DISINFECTOR		ENVIRONMENT	
	Water Sampling	Dry Swabbing of Scope <i>*Culture Medium</i> <i>Swabs x 1 (using 3 swab sticks)</i>	Quarantine	Thermal Disinfection	Water Sampling	Swabbing	Culture Medium Broth
<u>ESBL</u>	YES	YES Orange stripe, small bottle	No N.B. Note: Leave note attached; can be used before Microbiology results are known. Inform Consultant re same.	YES	No	No	-
<u>C. Diff</u>	YES	YES Orange stripe, small bottle	YES -Store scope into box in Disposal Room 6 -Log details into Scope Quarantine Record in Washroom 6		No	No	-
<u>VRE</u>	YES	YES Purple stripe, large bottle			YES	YES	Purple stripe, large bottle
<u>CRE Contact & CRE Positive</u>	YES	YES Orange stripe, small bottle			YES	YES CRE Positive	Orange stripe, small bottle
<u>CEPACIA</u>	YES	YES Orange stripe, small bottle			YES	No	-
*All other organisms ONLY on specific request from IPCT							
Please use appropriate broth / form			Send specimen promptly		Document specimen in logbook		
Miscellaneous notes for Infection Control Alerts on Endoscopes not listed on this list are in the Water Sample Folder							

Dr Niamh O'Sullivan, Consultant Microbiologist _____

Date: __/__/2020

14th November 2019