

WATER QUALITY FOR ENDOSCOPE DECONTAMINATION


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1.0 Introduction

This document identifies how to take a siphoned water sample from the Wassenburg Endoscope washer disinfectant weekly.

2.0 Definition of the Guideline

The term '**Standard Operating Procedure**' is a way of carrying out a particular course of action and includes operations, investigations, pharmaceutical treatment, examinations and any other treatment carried out

3.0 Applicable to

The standard operating procedure is applicable to trained nursing staff and health care assistants who work within the Endoscopy Decontamination Units.

4.0 Objectives of Guidelines

This document identifies how to take a siphoned water sample from the Wassenburg Endoscope Washer Disinfectant weekly.


5.0 Definition / Terms

- **Siphoned water sample** – a sample of the water from the final rinse of the disinfection process from the Wassenburg washer disinfectant. Sample to be processed by Microbiology Lab. Sample needs to be taken from both sides, same day, 7 days apart to detect the factors affecting the quality of water such as pseudomonas aeruginosa, microbial contaminants i.e. TVC (Total Viable Count).
- **Na+ (Sodium) Thiosulphate water bottle:** The final rinse water may contain antibacterial chemicals. This sample jar containing Neutralizing agent removes any traces of disinfectant.
- **Wassenburg Endoscope Washer Disinfectant** – It is an automated endoscope processing machine used for all endoscope disinfection following manual pre-cleaning

6.0 Guidelines

- Personnel should wear appropriate PPE to avoid false contamination of the sample and to protect the sample taken.
- Sterile jar x 2 i.e. Na Sodium Thiosulfate Containers.
- Wassenburg sample tubing.
- Stainless steel sampling device.
- Leak test blocker.
- Sterile drape.
- Sterile gloves.
- Sterile gauze.
- Laboratory form, Microbiology, correct sampling labels.

Procedure

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- Open lid.
- Clean thermocouple port and blocker with azowipes.
- Remove cap and place stainless steel sampling device into port (attach leak test blocker).
- Attach Wassenburg sampling tubing to Channel 7 and attach stainless steel sampling device.
- Remove gloves.
- Close lid.
- Select normal programme.
- Scan I.D. / Scan “scope code” – 8744 (machine wash).
- Start the process on the side of the Wassenburg machine from which the sample is to be taken.
- After approximately 25 minutes the final rinse steps will start.
- Wait until the third FINAL RINSE CYCLE rinse step has been in progress for 10 seconds (as indicated by the timer in the display) – then press interrupt.
- Decontaminate hands.
- Set up clean field – sterile drape, sterile gloves & sterile gauze.
- Remove lid from the Na Sodium Thiosulphate containers. Keep this container separate from sterile field as it is only sterile on the inside.
- Decontaminate hands and put on sterile gloves.
- Remove stainless steel sampling device with the gauze and place on corner of sterile field – trying to avoid contamination.

7.0 Implementation Plan

All staff will be given a copy of the new SOP and signed off. This SOP will be integrated into the standard competency booklets. All staff will be trained in performing this procedure.

8.0 Evaluation and Audit

Monitoring of compliance is an important aspect of procedural documents. Documentation of the sampling will be recorded in the Endoscopic Decontamination Unit records book. Results will be followed up and documented. Any positive results will be actioned and infection control contacted.

9.0 References (*as necessary*)

HSE Standards and Recommended Practices for Facility and Design and Equipping of Endoscope Decontamination Units (April 2019) QPSD-D-022-1 V1.1

Wassenburg medical devices manual – protocol for sampling final rinse water in the WD440 – Ref. K0H23TB01

Willis, C (2006) “Bacteria – free endoscopy water – a realistic aim?” *Epidemiology and Infection*. Vol. 134 No.2, pp

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