

PROCEDURE FOR: Fiberscope Care

SUPPORTIVE

DATA: The Fiberscope is used by the physician to examine the nasopharynx.

- POLICY:
1. The fiberscope must be thoroughly cleaned and then sterilized with a disinfectant after each use, since dried oral and respiratory secretions can contribute to unsafe patient care and deteriorate the scope.
  2. The fiberscope must be well dried and stored in a clean, dry, and well-ventilated location, which is maintained at a normal temperature. Ultraviolet radiation, dust, and high humidity and temperatures will damage the instrument.
  3. Due to the delicate fibers that make up the fiberscope, it should be stored with the insertion tube as straight as possible, coiling it no tighter than how it is coiled in the carrying case.
  4. If the MD reports an air leak or other problems they should be reported to Clinical Engineering.
  5. Clean disinfecting solution should be used for each sterilization procedure.

EQUIPMENT: Unsterile gloves  
Antimicrobial soap, such as Hebiclens  
Activated disinfecting solution, such as Cidex or Omnicide  
Fiberscope Disinfection Stand, if only immersing the insertion tube in solution  
Clean tepid water  
4 x 4 gauze pads and if desired, cotton-tipped applicators  
2 Large basin(s), if immersing entire scope for cleaning and disinfecting

PROCEDURE:

ACTION

POINTS OF EMPHASIS

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| 1. Don unsterile gloves   | 1. To protect against risk of infection or skin irritation.                                      |
| 2. Gently clean insertion tube of instrument with antimicrobial soap, clean water and gauze. Rinse thoroughly with clean water and dry the insertion tube with 4 x 4 gauze, | 2. To clean and remove excess debris from entire instrument. Refer to Olympus Instrument Manual. |

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starting from tip (light guide) and moving towards control and lens.

3. Clean entire instrument with antimicrobial soap and water in a large basin. Use a 4 x 4 gauze to scrub gently. Rinse thoroughly with clean water and dry all surfaces with 4 x 4 gauze, starting from tip (light guide) and moving towards control and lens.
4. Place insertion tube into fiberoptic scope disinfecting stand filled with activated disinfecting solution. Allow it to remain for the recommended time.
5. Following disinfection, remove insertion tube from fiberoptic scope disinfecting stand or basin and rinse thoroughly with clean water.
6. Wipe outside of instrument with 4 x 4 gauze starting from tip (light guide) and moving towards control and lens. A cotton-tipped applicator may be used to dry the distal end and eyepiece, if wet.
7. Store Fiberscope coiled gently and loosely as in the case and store in "hot lab".
8. Drain stand tubing of solution and replace with clean activated disinfecting solution for next sterilization procedure.
4. Follow Manufacturer's Instructions regarding immersion time for any disinfecting solution to sterilize, as it will vary from solution to solution.
5. It is important to remove all toxic residue and to prevent instrument deterioration.

APPROVAL:        Nursing Standards Committee

EFFECTIVE DATE:    3/02

REVISION DATE(S):