

## CARE & CLEANING OF BIMANUALS

### Care and Cleaning of Bimanual Instruments

#### Storage

Surgical instruments should be stored in sterilizing trays of proper size lined with soft silicone mats. Instruments should not touch each other. We recommend using protective tips made of soft silicone tubing of the proper size and thickness. Do not use rubber or plastic protective tips, which can melt during autoclaving and cause damage to instruments.

#### Inspection

Be sure to inspect every instrument at the end of your surgical day. Please conduct this inspection under a microscope or with magnification lens.

**Manual Cleaning:** This is NOT RECOMMENDED FOR BIMANUALS

**Ultrasonic Cleaning:** This is the only method recommended for cleaning Bimanuals.

**NOTE:** All Bimanual Instruments are designed to be **disassembled** for the purpose of cleaning them thoroughly. You will need to do this several times through the cleaning process.

- Use only cleaning solutions approved for surgical instruments. Change the solution frequently, always use demineralized or distilled water. Heat water to 150° Fahrenheit (62°C) using an immersion heater, or in a separate stainless container, if your unit does not have an automatic built-in water heater. Be sure that you and your staff members are completely familiar with the manufacturer's instructions, which came with your ultrasonic cleaner.
- Disassemble and watch that "Sharp" and/or "Delicate" Tips do not touch other instruments. All Bimanual TIPS must be fully submerged preferably with the Hub facing down. This is recommended because any debris that is in the Hub, this would increase the chance of this being removed. Do not place dissimilar metals (stainless, copper, chrome plated, etc.) in the same cleaning cycle.
- It is recommended to ultrasonic clean disassembled for a minimum of 10 minutes.
- It is highly recommended that a thorough inspection after a cleaning process is important to ensure that all fragments and/or dirt have been removed. If they are cleaned correctly they should be as clean as the outside of the instrument with no signs of corrosion. When corrosion becomes present the item is to be replaced.
- After removing instruments from the ultrasonic cleaner, rinse the instruments under running water first, and then assemble so you can flush three times with clean demineralized water.
- When the cleaning of the Bimanual is completed it is highly recommended to disassemble and blow-dry all water free from the Handle and Tip. By NO means allow the water to dry by evaporation. That is why it is highly recommend using a hot air blower to thoroughly dry the instruments.

**Lubrication:** Lubrication is not needed for Bimanuals.

#### Sterilization

Stainless Steel instruments can be sterilized via steam autoclaving, chemical disinfectants, ethylene oxide gas, or even dry hot air. Gas and dry chemical sterilization are the best methods for stainless steel instruments, but they take a lengthy time period to accomplish the desired result. The most practical method of sterilization is heat or steam, which require less time. However, these methods can be damaging to delicate stainless steel instruments. Use care when sterilizing your instruments. And, once again, be sure that you and your staff have read and fully understand the instructions supplied by the manufacturer of your particular sterilizer.