

**LSUHSC – Shreveport
Radiation Oncology
Proc. 19.3.10**

**LARYNGEAL SCOPE
PROCESSING OF INSTRUMENTS USING
HIGH LEVEL DISINFECTANT (GLUTERALDEHYDE)**

Policy:

To provide guidelines for processing scopes in the clinic with a high-level disinfectant Gluteraldehyde (Cidex) solution to prevent nosocomial infections.

Procedure:

1. Specific clinics are approved to process instruments using a high-level disinfectant (Gluteraldehyde) in the clinic area by the Infection Control Department. Those clinics are: ENT, Endoscopy, Primary Care Clinic, Radiation Therapy and Urology. Only trained staff work with Gluteraldehyde. Annual competency testing for all personnel that perform high level disinfecting instrument processing is done.
2. Personal protective equipment (gloves, gown, eyewear, mask) is worn during the decontamination phase and when working with Gluteraldehyde.
3. Gluteraldehyde is kept in a controlled area. Containers are kept covered to prevent the fumes of Gluteraldehyde from disseminating into the air. Recommend a room with 10 air exchanges.
4. The door to the Processing Room is kept closed at all times.
5. Dirty instruments are cleaned thoroughly with instrument cleaner solution and each channel brushed with a channel cleaning brush if applicable. The inside (if applicable) and outside of the instrument is rinsed and dried before placing in the gluteraldehyde. Hands are washed and gowns and gloves are changed between the decontamination stage and the disinfecting stage. Disposable cleaning brushes are discarded between each scope.
6. The instruments soaked for 45 minutes in Gluteraldehyde (2.4%).
7. Sterile gloves are used to transfer the scope from Gluteraldehyde to the pan for rinsing with sterile water times three (3) rinses. The scope/probe is then dried using a clean towel.
8. The dry instruments are then placed in a clean carrying case, hung in an instrument cabinet without brushing bottom of cabinet or placed in a clean drawer. After high level disinfection, items are labeled “high level disinfection only.”

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9. Gluteraldehyde is tested daily, (and any other time when Cidex is used multiple times during the day) before placement of instruments using test strips with results recorded in a log book.
10. Gluteraldehyde is discarded in the appropriate container every 14 days or sooner if the solution becomes diluted or soiled. Safety Office picks up used Gluteraldehyde for disposal. It is the responsibility of the clinic to notify Safety Office for pick-up of Gluteraldehyde for disposal.
11. Biohazard labels shall be placed on disinfectant containers as well as date to discard and time soak is complete.
12. Gluteraldehyde pans are sterilized in Central Medical Supply before refilling with fresh Gluteraldehyde solution. Pans for rinsing are sterilized in CMS daily.
13. If scope is used daily on a continuous basis, it should be sterilized in Central Medical Supply once a week.

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