# Management of Endoscope Used on Patient with Known or Suspected Infection Control Alert

**Standard Operating Procedure**

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## Document Change History

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1.0 Introduction

This document outlines the procedure to be followed for the management of all endoscopes used on a patient with a known or suspected Infection Control Alert.

2.0 Definition of Terms

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

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

Wassenburg Endoscope Washer Disinfector: Endoscope washer disinfector which provides automated high level disinfection and decontamination of flexible endoscopes between patient procedures with complete validation and traceability of all cycles.

Endoscope and Environmental screening for Microbiology: List of I.C. alerts and action required, which is attached to this document.

Miscellaneous notes on infection control alerts for endoscopy: A list of alerts which are not included in the document (above)

3.0 Objective

The purpose of this document is to provide guidelines:

- To successfully decontaminate both the endoscope and the washer /disinfector after they have been exposed to a known or suspected Infection Control Alert.

- To outline the quarantine procedure, if applicable, for the endoscope and the washer / disinfector until a water sample and/or a swab culture from the endoscope and washer has been analysed in the microbiology laboratory and a negative growth result has been received.

All endoscopes are checked for functionality and any defects during the manual washing and sampling process.

4.0 Responsibility

This guideline affects all healthcare staff members in the Operating Theatre Department and Outpatient Department who use an endoscope and operate the washer / disinfector.
It is the responsibility of each member of staff using the Wassenburg Endoscope Washer Disinfector to adhere to the correct method of management of an endoscope after use on a patient with a known or suspected Infection Control Alert.

5.0 Procedure

A. Preoperative / Intraoperative Preparation

- Ensure porter wears appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) if collecting patient.
- Cover patient trolley with blue impermeable sheet.
- Patient scheduled last on list or in a separate theatre and recovered in that theatre.
- Empty room of non-essential equipment.
- If patient is known CRE carrier, cover remaining essential equipment with plastic and/or cling film.
- Wear appropriate PPE (including goggles, micro touch gloves ,
- long arm impermeable thumbs up gown ref CD 1 and mask (if required) for
- Procedure and subsequent manual wash. Remove last 2 bullet point dots

B. Postoperative Preparation

- Discard disposable accessories in yellow clinical waste bag and/or sharps bin if applicable.
- Send reusable accessories with contamination alert sticker immediately to HSSD.
- Consult document “Endoscope and environmental screening for Microbiology” or document “Miscellaneous Infection Control Alerts” in water sample folder on water sampling trolley in washroom 6. for the management of the relevant I.C. alert.
- If known CRE (not suspected) do manual cleaning of scope in sluice room attached to the Theatre used. Use large HSSD box as mobile sink.
- Manually leak test and wash endoscope immediately as per relevant policy SOP “leak testing and manually cleaning “relevant endoscope.
- Load into washer disinfector immediately after wash along with sink stopper unless in the middle of an endoscopy list, when the scope can be put into a quarantine box, labeled, and processed at the end of the list.
- After decontamination, take water sample/s and if indicated dry swab sample as per policy “Taking water samples from endoscopes”.
- Send samples via chute to the Microbiology immediately for culture. Put contamination alert and indicate I.C. alert on request form.
- Contact on-call laboratory staff out of hours to inform them.

Theatre Department
• Place endoscope in quarantine box in sluice room 6 (clean quarantine boxes available prep room 6
• Document endoscope and infection alert details on quarantine list on washroom 6 notice board and in sampling record book on water sampling trolley
• A verbal result of negative growth of organisms from microbiology is sufficient to take the scope from quarantine. Result available 3 to 5 working days approximately after sampling.
• Leave all connectors used in the decontamination cycle in the washer bath.
• Carry out thermal self-disinfect cycle, then take water sample for culture from bath used
• (Instructions in endoscope water sampling folder) ?attach instructions as appendix, if indicated on environmental screening and miscellaneous alerts documents
• Clean sink used for manual wash with actichlor as per guidelines for environmental cleaning in theatre.

6.0 References


Wassenburg Endoscope Washer Disinfector User Manual 2015

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