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IMPORTANT INFORMATION – PLEASE READ CAREFULLY BEFORE USE

RECOMMENDED STERILIZATION PROTOCOL FOR KARL SCHUMACHER INSTRUMENTS.

ANY ITEM SPECIFIC STERILIZATION REQUIREMENTS NOT COVERED BY THESE INSTRUCTIONS WILL BE INCLUDED WITH THE ITEM PACKAGE AND WILL BE PROVIDED IN A SEPARATE INSTRUCTION SHEET.

CAUTION

Please read all information contained in this insert. Incorrect handling and care as well as misuse can lead to premature wear of surgical/dental instruments. Instruments must be handled with the greatest care when being transported, cleaned, sterilized and stored. This is especially true for blades, fine points and other fragile areas. All persons using this device should have knowledge in the use and handling of surgical instruments, accessories and related equipment.

INITIAL USE OF NEW INSTRUMENTS

Carefully examine each instrument before use. Never use a damaged instrument. Every instrument must be cleaned and sterilized prior to its initial use as well as all subsequent uses. Ultrasonic cleaning is recommended. Distilled water must be used if demineralization and filtration of the water supply is not achieved prior

to the final connection or outlet used to supply water for the ultrasonic cleaning unit. The chlorine in tap water is a major contributing factor for pitting and corrosion on instruments. It is important to strictly adhere to the manufacturer's instructions regarding the concentration of cleaning solution, time and frequency.

After the ultrasonic cycle, rinse thoroughly and completely dry the instruments. Instruments that are in sterilization trays need to be removed and completely dried, as well as the sterilization tray itself. Not completely drying the instruments prior to autoclaving causes spotting on the instruments. Cleaning and rinsing must take place after each use for best results. Failure to clean properly may result in adherent particles or dried proteins that may resist cleaning and complicate future sterilization. Enzymatic cleaners should also be used to remove protein deposits.

Autoclave the instruments. Again, Distilled water must be used if demineralization and filtration of the water supply is not achieved prior to the final connection or outlet used to supply water for the sterilizer. Tap water causes corrosion which will lead to rust. As with the ultrasonic, closely follow the manufacturer's instructions regarding operation and loading as well as sterilization time specifications.

Standard autoclave cycle: Steam sterilize at 270°F (132°C) for 15 minutes. Other time and steam temperature cycles may also be used. However, user must validate any deviation from the recommended time and temperature. (Note: Contact the manufacturer of your steam autoclave to confirm appropriate temperatures and sterilization times.) Do not exceed 280° F (137°C).

Hinged instruments must be cleaned, sterilized and stored in the open position. Cold sterilization is not recommended. The harsh chemical solutions used in cold sterilization can cause corrosion problems with the instruments.

Other factors to remember:

- Do not use corrosive cleaning agents (i.e. bleach). Cleaning solutions and rinses should be at or near a neutral pH (7.0).
- Do not use abrasive cleaners.
- Only a soft bristle brush should be used.
- Check and retighten any fittings that might have vibrated loose during the ultrasonic cycle.
- Lubricate hinged instruments with paraffin oil after cleaning and before sterilization.
- Instruments that have locking mechanisms (i.e. Needle holders, Scissors, Hemostats) must be cleaned, sterilized and stored with the locks in open position. Sterilizing in the locked position can cause the box lock or tips to fracture.

Following these instructions will greatly increase the life span and functionality of these fine hand crafted instruments.