



Ultra Sound Probes Procedure

Procedure Number

WCDHB-IC-0047

Version Nos:

6

1. Purpose

This Procedure outlines the process for the cleaning of ultrasound transducers instruments used in semi-critical sites (e.g. Intracavity probes such as Transvaginal, Transrectal and Nasendoscopes, & non-lumened medical devices within the West Coast District Health Board (WCDHB) facilities.

2. Application

This Procedure is to be followed by all staff throughout WCDHB.

3. Definitions

There are no definitions associated with this Procedure.

4. Responsibilities

For the purposes of this Procedure:

Clinical Nurse Specialist Infection Control is required to:

- oversee all aspects of this Procedure
- monitor the performance of WCDHB staff members in relation to this Procedure;

Staff Members are required to:

- ensure they abide by the requirements of this Procedure;
- abide by all WCDHB Infection Control Policy and Procedures;
- abide by all WCDHB Health and Safety Policy and Procedure.

5. Resources Required

This Procedure requires:

- i) Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
- ii) Ultrasonic gel
- iii) Incontinent sheet
- iv) Probe cover
- v) Tristel Wipes system (Trio) 3 step
- vi) Tristel Solo (for Abdominal probes and other skin surface probes)
- vii) Clean towel
- viii) Audit book for traceability

6. Process

- 1.00 The cleaning and disinfection of Ultra Sound Probes (intracavity transducers) requires a high-level disinfection process.
- 1.01 Cleaning of Ultra Sound Probes is to be performed between each patient examination.



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- 1.02 Before using the Ultra Sound Probes, ensure that the probe is covered with a sheath and rubber bands, and covered with ultrasonic gel.
- 1.03 Immediately after use, using the left hand, carefully ease the sheath from the probe, and then remove left glove capturing sheath within the glove as it is turned inside out. Discard into yellow rubbish bag.
- 1.04 Using the gloved right hand, place the probe onto a clean incontinent sheet. Fold sheet in half to cover the probe only.
- 1.05 Remove right glove and discard into yellow rubbish bag.
- 1.06 Unplug Ultra Sound Probe plug from the system.
- 1.07 Place cable and plug on outer surface of incontinent sheet.
- 1.08 Remove all equipment to decontamination area.
- 1.09 In the decontamination area, wash hands and put on new pair of gloves.
- 1.10 Use **Tristel pre-clean wipe** to decontaminate the instrument, open sachet scrunch wipe for few seconds to activate foam of the enzymatic, proceed to wipe over instrument including cord for 20 seconds
- 1.11 Second step in decontamination process is to put on clean gloves and open **Tristel Sporidical Wipe** sachet pump 2 measures of “activator foam” onto sporidical wipe, scrunch to mix active ingredients, wait 15 seconds, wipe the surface of the instrument ensuring all areas have come in contact with the solution, all areas of the surface must come into contact with the wipe at least once. Wait 30 seconds
- 1.12 Third step open **Tristel Rinse Wipe** sachet (5 ml sterile water) wipe over instrument, place the cleaned instrument onto a clean towel. The Rinse wipe is utilized to remove and neutralize chemical residues from the surface
- 1.13 Dispose of incontinent sheet and clinical waste into clinical waste rubbish bag
- 1.14 Remove and dispose of gloves.
- 1.15 Wash and dry hands.
- 1.16 Audit book for traceability, remove both labels from the back of the sporidical wipe, place one label in the patients chart and one label in the audit book
- 1.17 Remove Ultra Sound Probe to storage area.
- 1.18 **Tristel Solo foam** is utilized to clean the abdominal ultrasound probes and probes that are only in contact with skin surfaces. Foam is applied to a cleaning wipe and all parts of outer surface cleaned in between patient use.



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7. Precautions And Considerations

- ➔ The cleaning and disinfection of Ultra Sound Probes (intracavity transducers) requires a high-level disinfection process.
- ➔ Cleaning of Ultra Sound Probes is to be performed between each patient examination.

8. References

New Zealand Standard – Infection Control (NZS 8142:2008)

Australian /New Zealand Standard – Office-based health care facilities - Reprocessing of reusable medical and surgical instruments and equipment, and maintenance of the associated environment. AS/NZS 4815:2006

9. Related Documents

WCDHB Health and Safety Procedure Manual

WCDHB Infection Control Procedure Manual

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