

Recommendation for Cleaning & Sterilizing American Surgical Stainless Steel Surgical Instruments

- 1.= Rinse instruments in demineralized water.
- 2.= Remove blood and debris with a soft brush and instrument detergent, being careful to open all instruments.
- 3.= Clean instruments in ultrasonic cleaner using the manufacturer's recommended cleaning solution.
- 4.= After cleaning, lubricate instruments using lubricant recommendations and follow manufacturer's guideline for use.
- 5.= Remove excess lubricant from instruments.
- 6.= Autoclave instruments.
- 7.= Make certain wrapped instrument packs are thoroughly dried to prevent corrosion from trapped moisture.
- 8.= Use each instrument only for its intended purpose.
- 9.= Clean autoclaves periodically to minimize the accumulation or residue.

Packing for Sterilization

American Surgical instruments should be placed in suitable packaging for the sterilization process (i.e., central supply wrap (CSR), autoclave bags, paper/Tyvek® pouches, sterilization trays, etc.) and sterilized prior to surgical use. It is important to properly clean all American Surgical instruments prior to sterilization.

Sterilization Recommendations

Table 1: Instrument Categories by Product Features

Device Type	Prevacuum Wrapped	Prevacuum Unwrapped	Gravity Wrapped	Gravity Unwrapped	EO	Chemical Disinfectant	Chemical Sterilant	Peracetic Acid ¹	Gas Plasma ²
Very Rough Surfaces	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No
Sliding Hinges	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No
Lever Hinges	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No
Screw Pivot Hinges	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No
Lumens	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No
Cords or Cables	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Sterilization Trays	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No

A "No" indicates American Surgical does not currently have the data to support the recommendation of the specified method of sterilization for the given category. It does not necessarily indicate the inability of the cycle to effectively sterilize this category of device.

- Notes: (1) The peracetic acid cycle references the Steris® System 1 processor.
(2) The gas plasma cycle references the Sterrad® Sterilization System.

Cycle Parameters (The following cycle parameters relate to Table 1).

Prevacuum Cycle (wrapped and unwrapped): 3 preconditioning pulses with a minimum exposure time of 4 minutes at 270°F (132°C).

Gravity Cycle (wrapped): 270°F (132°C) with a minimum exposure time of 15 minutes.

Gravity Cycle (unwrapped): 270°F (132°C) with a minimum exposure time of 10 minutes.

Ethylene Oxide Cycle:

Sterilant	Temperature	Humidity	Preconditioning	Concentration	Exposure
100% EO	131°F (55°C)	65-75%	1 hour	725 mg/l	120-360 minutes
Aerate a minimum of 12 hours at 131°F (55°C)					

Liquid Chemical Cycle:

Concentration of Glutaraldehyde	Temperature	Exposure for Disinfection	Exposure for Sterilization
2.4%	77°F (25°C)	45 minutes	10 hours