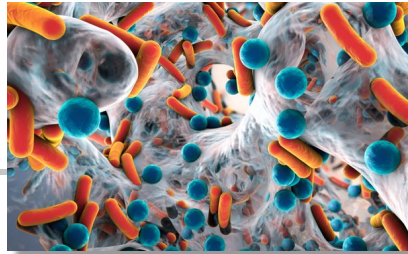


Endoscope Reprocessing: Paradigm Shift
Dr. Michelle Alfa, University of Manitoba
A Webber Training Teleclass

***Endoscope Reprocessing:
 Paradigm Shift***



Dr. Michelle J. Alfa, Ph.D., FCCM
 Professor, Dept of Medical Microbiology, U of Manitoba,
 Winnipeg, Manitoba

Hosted by Barbara Catt
 Public Health Ontario

www.webbertraining.com

October 10, 2019

Dr. Michelle Alfa

Disclosures (over past 24 months)

	Speaker	Advisory	Research	Consultant
3M	√	√		√
Healthmark		√	√	√
STERIS			√	
Ruhof	√			
J&J	√	√		√
Olympus	√	√	√	√
Novaflux		√		√
Ambu	√			

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St Boniface Research Centre

Winnipeg, Manitoba Canada



Objectives:

- **Endoscope Issues:**
 - Infection transmission risk
 - Contamination
- **Manufacturer's Instructions: Effective?**
- **FDA Recommendations: Effective?**
- **Shift to Sterilization**
- **Summary: what to do?**

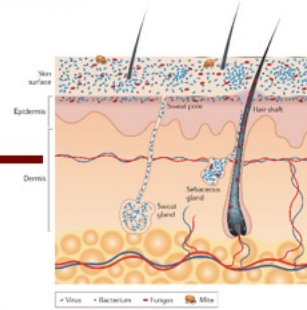
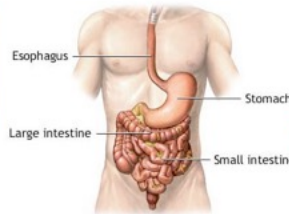


All Clipart Pictures in this presentation are from Free Google Images

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Patient Infections related to Medical Devices

Endogenous: Infections due to patient's own organisms



Exogenous: Infection due to contaminated medical device



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Current Published Data:

- Risk of Infection after endoscopy?
- Contamination of Patient-ready Endoscopes?



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Infection Rates 7 days after Colonoscopy
and OGD procedures in Ambulatory
Surgery Centres in 2014

Type of Procedure	Number evaluated	Infections/1000 procedures
Screening colonoscopy	462,068	1.13
Non-screening colonoscopy	914,140	1.57
Osophagogastroduodenoscopy	873,138	3.04
Bronchoscopy	30,116	16.54
Cystoscopy	68,432	4.42
Screening mammogram	647,212	0.61

Wang P et al Rates of infection after colonoscopy and osophagogastroduodenoscopy in ambulatory surgery centres in the USA. Gut 2018. (<http://dx.doi.org/10.1136/gutjnl-2017-315308>).

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Types of Organisms causing infection

- Drug-resistant microorganisms
- *Escherichia coli*
- *Klebsiella pneumoniae*
- *Clostridium difficile*
- *Pseudomonas spp.*
- *Staphylococcus spp.*
- *Streptococcus spp.*
- Gram-negative bacteria
- Anaerobes
- Human papillomavirus

Wang P et al Rates of infection after colonoscopy and osophagogastroduodenoscopy in ambulatory surgery centres in the USA. Gut 2018. (<http://dx.doi.org/10.1136/gutjnl-2017-315308>).

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Evidence of GI Endoscope Contamination

Rauwers AW et al. Gut 2018 doi: 10.1136/gutjnl-2017-315082

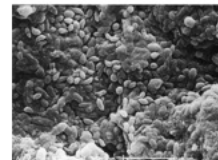
Culture: Neutralizer & sample concentrated by filtration

Organism grown: GI flora	Number of Duodenoscopes	Quantity Range
<i>Yeast</i>	7	6 to 100 CFU
<i>Klebsiella pneumoniae</i>	4	100 to > 100 CFU
<i>Enterobacter cloacae</i>	3	100 to > 100 CFU
<i>Escherichia coli</i>	2	50 to 100 CFU
<i>Klebsiella oxytoca</i>	2	100 to > 100 CFU
<i>Enterococcus faecium</i>	1	1 CFU
<i>Enterococcus faecalis</i>	1	100 CFU
<i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i>	1	100 CFU
<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>	1	> 100 CFU

- ❖ **Duodenoscopes: 15% of 155 tested were contaminated**
- ❖ **Current reprocessing & process control procedures not adequate**

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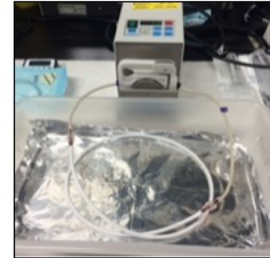
**Can current duodenoscope
 Manufacturer's reprocessing
 instructions eliminate traditional
 biofilm?**



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PTFE Biofilm Model (ISO 15883-2005 Annex F)

- Biofilm allowed to form overnight in PTFE channel
- Manufacturer's pump-assisted cleaning combined with liquid chemical sterilization (SS1E)
- Process repeated for 5 times (i.e. 5 consecutive days)
- Optimal culture method



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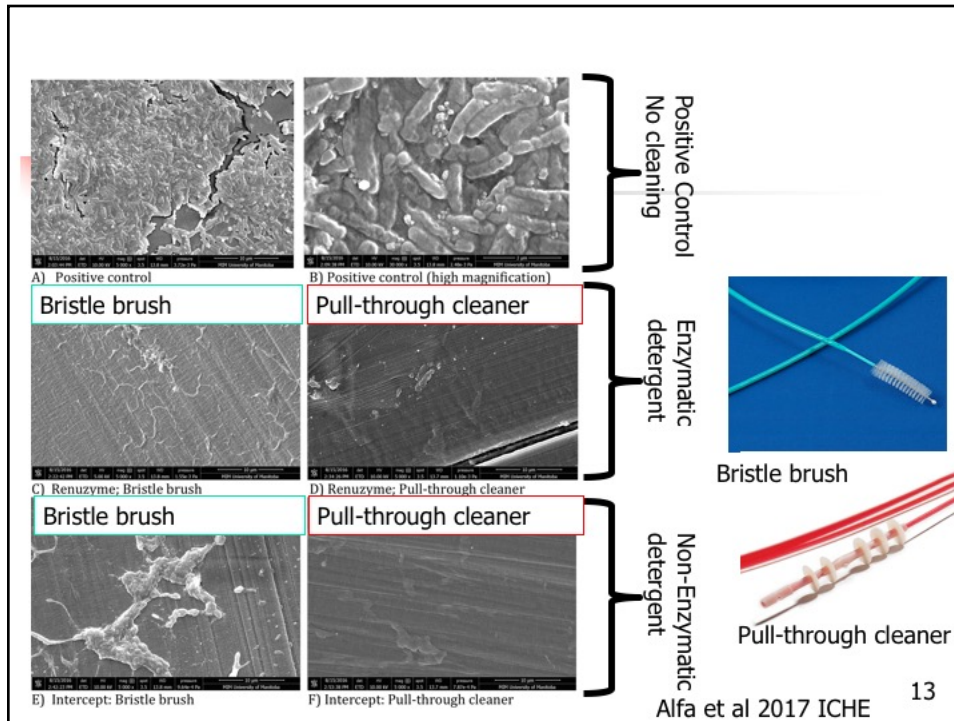
Five Repeated Rounds of Reprocessing

Test Condition	<i>E. faecalis</i> Log ₁₀ CFU/cm ²	<i>P. aeruginosa</i> Log ₁₀ CFU/cm ²	Protein ug/cm ²
1. Positive control No cleaning No AER	7.72 (0.09)	9.10 (0.09)	172.31 (13.30)
2. Enzymatic Det. Bristle brush, AER: SS1E	< LD	< LD	4.60 (0.58)
3. Enzymatic Det Pull-through AER: SS1E	< LD	< LD	2.13 (2.07)
4. Non Enzymatic Bristle brush AER: SS1E	2.24 (0.00)	2.24 (0.00)	5.18 (1.50)
5. Non Enzymatic Pull-through AER: SS1E	0.008 (0.08)	0.026 (0.44)	4.31 (3.14)

Alfa et al 2017 ICHE

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Biofilm Removal: PTFE channels

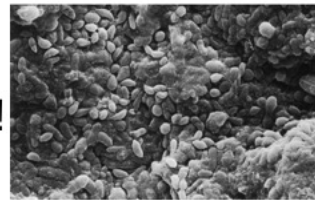
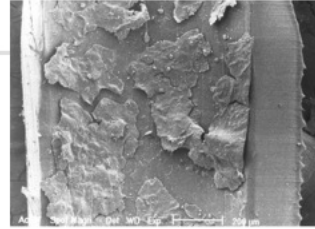
- **MIFU Cleaning:**
Friction and detergent affect ability of biofilm bacteria to survive full reprocessing
- **Channel surface cleaning friction:**
Bristle brush not as effective as pull-through cleaner.



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Flexible Endoscopes: Biofilm

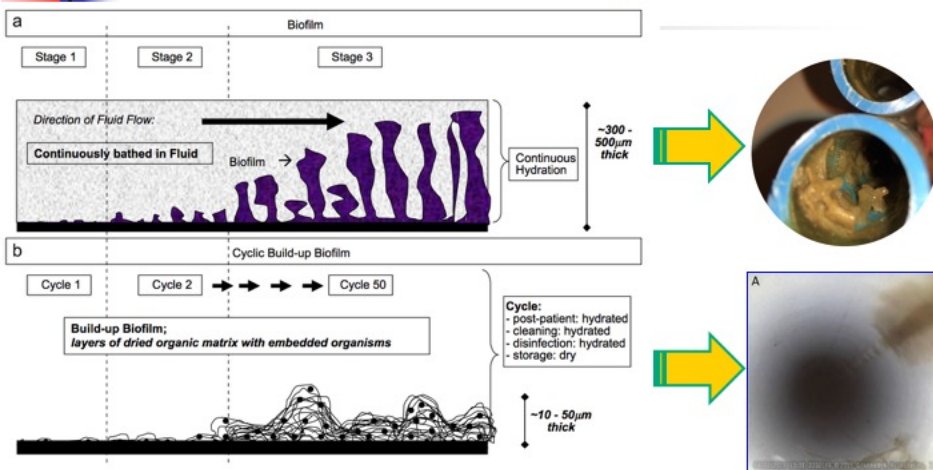
- **Expectation:**
Biofilm SHOULD NOT form inside **dry** endoscope channels
- **Reality:**
Build-up biofilm does form!



2004: Air/Water channel of GI flexible endoscopes Pajkos et al J Hosp Infect 2004;58:224-9
2014: SEM showed biofilm in 54.6% of 66 Biopsy channels and 76.9% of 13 Air/water channels Ren-Pei W AJIC 2014; 42:1203-6

15

Comparison: Traditional to Buildup Biofilm



Zhong W, Alfa M, Howie R, Zelenitsky S.
 Simulation of cyclic reprocessing buildup on reused medical devices. Comput Biol Med 2009 Jun; 39(6): 568-577.

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Drying Endoscope channels for Storage

1. Endoscope manufacturer's instructions:

- Endoscopes **MUST** be dried prior to storage.
- ALL channels: alcohol flush & forced air drying

2. Automated Endoscope Reprocessors (AER)

- many have alcohol flush and drying cycle
- they do NOT claim this dries sufficiently

3. Endoscopy clinic staff:

- Widespread believe that AER cycle adequately dries endoscopes for storage

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Borescope: Inspect inner channel of endoscopes



Borescope use for endoscopes recommended by:
AAMI ST91 2015, AORN 2017, IAHCSSM 2017

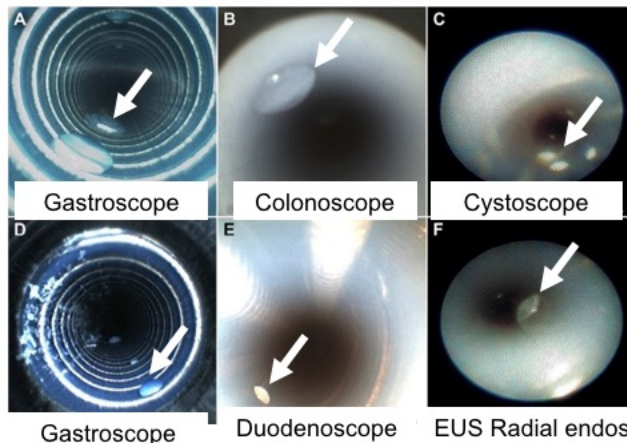
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After AER; alcohol flush, 6 min air flush & overnight storage

Ambulatory Clinics: Visible Fluid in 95% Channels

[Ofstead et al AJIC 2017;45:e26-e33 doi.org/10.1016/j.ajic.2016.10.017]



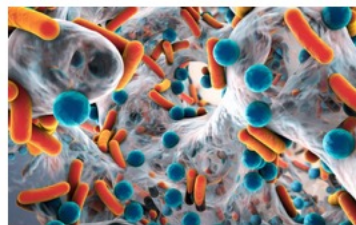
Large healthcare systems: Visible fluid in 49% channels

[Ofstead et al AJIC 2018;45:e26-e33 doi.org/10.1016/j.ajic.2018.03.002]

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Storage of endoscopes with moisture in Channels

- Much more extensive than recognized
- Leads to Build-up biofilm (BBF)
- Bacterial survival in BBF increases risk of infection transmission.



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Olympus Statement Simethicone use

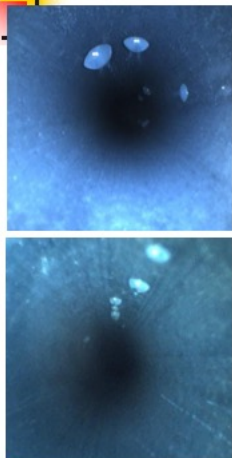
[June 29, 2018]:

- **Simethicone:** not easily removed by current reprocessing methods
- **Do Not use:** water insoluble lubricants such as Simethicone
- **Can use:** water soluble lubricants such as K/Y jelly, lidocaine jelly for insertion tube
- **If simethicone used** – administer in bowel prep or through Biopsy port

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Simethicone retained despite reprocessing

Barak M. et al GIE 2018 10.1016/j.gie.2018.08.012



Simethicone tested at:
0.5%, 1%, 3% in water bottle as well as by biopsy port injection

Despite AER dry PLUS 10 min manual forced air dry:
Residual droplets & simethicone found in patient-used upper GI endoscopes even when used at lowest concentration 0.5%

Authors question clinical significance of simethicone residuals & suggested 2 x AER

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Winnipeg banned the use of Simethicone in endoscopes [Aug 20, 2018]

**However... 10% more polyps identified
with simethicone in water bottle
versus without.**

Kutyla et al Influence of Simethicone Added to the Rinse
Water during Colonoscopies on Polyp Detection Rates:
Results of an Unintended Cohort Study.
Digestion 2018;98:217–221

ECRI report 2018 Aug 17, 2018:
*Each site needs to decide whether to ban
simethicone in endoscopes or not*

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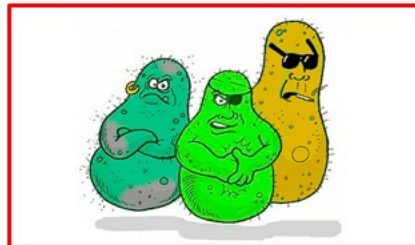
Take Home Message: DRY.....DRY.....DRY.....!!!



Dry channels:
NO bacterial replication



Ofstead 2017:
Humidicator strips correlate
with borescope test for
residual fluid



Moisture in channels:
Bacterial replication → BIOFILM

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Channel-purge Storage cabinets

- HEPA filtered or medical grade air flushed through all channels
- many manufacturers



Wassenburg Medical



ARC Healthcare Solutions

Commonly used in Europe but NOT commonly used in North America

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Small air-flushing pumps:
 facilitate drying before storage



Air-Time Channel dryer



Tri-Core Systems Inc



Fujinon

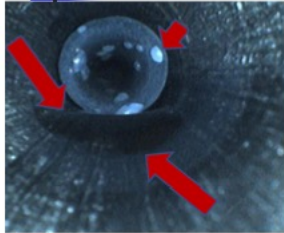
Images from Manufacturer's website

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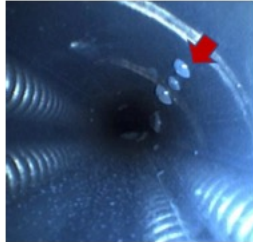
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Automated vs Manual Drying:

Barakat et al GIE 2018, doi: 10.1016/j.gie.2018.08.033



After AER alcohol flush
and 1 min air dry



After AER alcohol flush
and 1 min air dry and;
10 min manual dry
with forced air



After AER alcohol flush
and 1 min air dry and;
5 min DriScope
drying

Virtually no retained fluid after 10 min DriScope drying

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What more can happen.....?



- FDA supplemental recommendations
- Switch to sterilization of ALL endoscopes

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Current Situation:

- Supplementary Reprocessing Recommendations from FDA (2015)
 - Are these four recommendations effective?
- Transition to sterilization:
 - Limited options
- Widespread confusion!!

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FDA supplementary recommendations [August 4, 2015]

- 
- Microbiological Culturing
 - Ethylene Oxide Sterilization after High Level Disinfection
 - Use of a Liquid Chemical Sterilant Processing System after High Level Disinfection
 - High-Level Disinfection done twice

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Culture of Endoscopes:

Feb 2018: FDA/CDC/ASM Duodenoscope surveillance sampling and culturing: Reducing the risk of infection

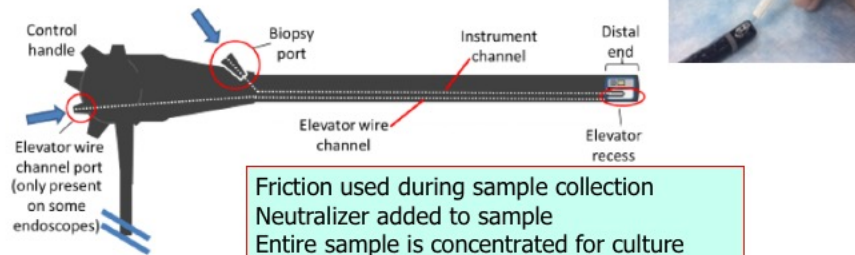
- Friction during sample collection
- Neutralizer to protect damaged bacteria and stimulate them to grow
- Concentration of entire sample (e.g. filtration)

<https://www.fda.gov/downloads/MedicalDevices/ProductsandMedicalProcedures/ReprocessingofReusableMedicalDevices/UCM597949.pdf>

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FDA/CDC/ASM Protocol

- **One combined sample collected from:**
 - Elevator recess (flush-brush-flush)
 - Instrument channel (flush-brush-flush)
 - Elevator wire channel (if unsealed)



Validated by Olympus, Pentax, Fujinon; 65% - 100% extraction efficacy

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Implementation of Endoscope Culture

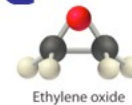


- **USA¹:** 53.4% culture duodenoscopes
Canada: Not yet widely implemented
- **FDA post-market clinical study: duodenoscope culture using FDA/CDC/ASM April 2018 method:**
 - **Assumption:** right after HLD < 0.4% contamination
 - **April 12, 2019 FDA report: Post HLD**
 - 3.6% contained > 100 CFU low concern organisms
 - 5.4% contained High concern organisms (E.coli, Pseudomonas etc)

¹Thaker A et al Duodenoscope reprocessing practice patterns in USA endoscopy centers: a survey study. GIE 2018 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.gie.2018.04.2340>

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HLD followed by Ethylene Oxide Sterilization: Turn around time > 24 Hrs



Naryzhny et al GIE 2016: Outbreak site

Carbapenem Resistant *E.coli* still found in 1/84 duodenoscopes

Snyder et al Gastroenterology 2017:

Contamination: HLD alone = 16.1%, HLD plus EO = 22.5%
[No significant difference]

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EO Sterilization Approach: Failure if organic/salts residuals remain

Test:	Residual bacteria Log ₁₀ CFU/lumen (SD) Exposed to 100% Ethylene oxide sterilization	
	<i>Enterococcus faecalis</i>	<i>Bacillus subtilis spores</i>
Positive control	6.76 (0.13)	6.13 (0.13)
Tissue culture media + 10% serum	2.67 (0.13)	3.60 (0.34)

Alfa et al *Comparison of liquid chemical sterilization with peracetic acid and ethylene oxide sterilization for long narrow lumens* (AJIC 1998;26:469-77)

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Implementation of EO

USA¹: 12.0 % have adopted this approach

Canada: Not widely implemented

¹Thaker A et al Duodenoscope reprocessing practice patterns in USA endoscopy centers: a survey study. GIE 2018 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.gie.2018.04.2340>

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HLD followed by Liquid Chemical Sterilization:

Turn around time ~ 60 mins



No published data

- drying before storage is a major concern as biofilm will form if channels are wet

Note: FDA no longer recommends this approach

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High Level Disinfection (HLD) done two times:

- **Visrodia** et al GIE 2017

Persistent regrowth of same organism:
K. pneumoniae, P.aeruginosa, S.maltophilia

- **Bartels** et al GIE 2018

Persistent regrowth of same organism: *E.coli*
No improvement using HLD x 2 versus HLD x 1

- **Snyder** et al Gastroenterology 2017

Contamination the same using HLD x 2 versus HLD x 1



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Implementation of HLD x 2

USA¹: 63.1% have adopted this approach

Canada: not widely implemented

NOTE: Adequate drying after HLD X 2 is still needed

¹Thaker A et al Duodenoscope reprocessing practice patterns in USA endoscopy centers: a survey study. *GIE* 2018 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.gie.2018.04.2340> 39

New Low Temperature Sterilization: Sterizone VP4

Turn-around-time ~ 1 Hr

- H_2O_2 + Ozone
- Mixed loads



FDA cleared for many endoscope lumen dimensions (duodenoscopes?). Limited published data

Vanessa Molloy-Simard et al *Elevating the standard of endoscope processing: Terminal sterilization of duodenoscopes using a hydrogen peroxide–ozone sterilizer. AJIC* 2019;47:243-250]

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Shift to Sterilization of Flexible Endoscopes



- **AAMI ST91 committee meeting Oct 2017**
 - accepted that this recommendation will be in the 2019 revision of AAMI ST91 Endoscope Reprocessing guideline
 - [*This guideline has not yet been released*]
- **Transition period once AAMI ST91 released**
- **Many USA & Canadian sites already sterilize bronchoscopes, cystoscopes, ureteroscopes**

ANSI/AAMI ST91:2015 Flexible and semi-rigid endoscope processing in health care facilities

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Shift to Sterilization of Flexible Endoscopes



- **FDA Ethylene Oxide (ETO) Advisory Panel meeting Nov 2019**
 - Illinois EPA ordered closure of commercial High-capacity ETO sterilization company
 - Low temperature sterilization of duodenoscopes

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Key Take Home Messages:



- Endoscope contamination: 9% to 15%
- MIFU issues:
 - HLD & Sterilization failure if Biofilm & BBF present
 - Simethicone – not reliably removed by current MIFU
- Wet Storage is widespread → biofilm
- FDA Supplementary recommendations
 - double reprocessing; no more effective than single reprocessing
- Shift to sterilization: limited options

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WHAT TO DO...???



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ENDOSCOPE REPROCESSING: *NEW PARADIGM*

- ***What is the situation in your facility??***
- **Specific Audit with Data:**
 - **Test:** efficacy of manual cleaning
 - **Test:** Dry Storage
 - **Test:** Culture of endoscopes

Audit



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Endoscope Reprocessing: Paradigm Shift!



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(South Pacific Teleclass)
[SELF-REPORTED BEHAVIORS AND PERCEPTIONS OF AUSTRALIAN PARAMEDICS IN RELATION TO HAND HYGIENE AND GLOVING PRACTICES IN PARAMEDIC-LED HEALTHCARE](#)
October 16, 2019
Speaker: **Prof. Nigel Barr**, University of the Sunshine Coast, Australia

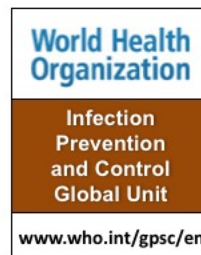
[INFECTION CONTROL ISSUES IN HEALTHCARE CONSTRUCTION, PART 2 – NEW BUILDS](#)
October 24, 2019
Speaker: **Andrew Streifel**, University of Minnesota

[HEALTHCARE-ASSOCIATED PNEUMONIA THAT IS NOT VENTILATOR-ASSOCIATED: BIG PROBLEM, BUT GUIDELINE-FREE ZONE](#)
November 7, 2019
Speaker: **Martin Kiernan**, University of West London

(FREE European Teleclass)
[THE ROLE OF CLEANERS IN INFECTION PREVENTION - NEGLECTED FRONT LINE WORKERS IN HEALTHCARE FACILITIES](#)
November 12, 2019
Speaker: **Prof. Wendy Graham**, London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, and **Claire Kilpatrick**, The Soapbox Collaborative
Sponsored by the World Surgical Infection Society



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