INFECTION PREVENTION & CONTROL

AS-5369:2023: Australian Standard™ Reprocessing of reusable medical devices (RMD) and other devices in health and non-health related facilites

PROTECT YOUR PATIENTS. PROTECT YOUR PRACTICE.

RMD reprocessing is a multistep process that may include cleaning, disinfection, inspection and assembly, testing, packaging and sterilisation, transport and storage with appropriate handling to render them safe for reuse

Minimise the risk

- **Practice hand hygiene:** In accordance with the 5 Moments of Hand Hygiene. Don suitable gloves for invasive procedures.
- **Use aseptic technique:** Maintain an aspetic field to prevent contamination during semi-critical and critical procedures.
- **Routine education recommended:** Complete infection prevention and control modules on practice as required, and in line with facility or other requirements.
- **Risk assessment & documentation:** Access and document protocols for handling and storing RMDs

Reprocessing the transducer

Step 1: Cleaning the transducer

- **Dedicated reprocessing area:** Set up a clearly defined space with unidirectional workflow to prevent cross contamination
- **Approved cleaning products**: Use Class I cleaning agents listed on the ARTG, or cleaning agents listed on the NZ Medsafe website, for safe and effective cleaning
- **Remove all debris from the transducer:** Including gel, organic matter, and residual cleaning agent to achieve a clean and dry transducer prior to HLD

Step 2: High Level Disinfection (HLD)

- **Validated disinfection:** Only use Class IIb disinfection products listed on the ARTG, or disinfection products listed on the NZ Medsafe website, to meet national safety standards
- **Traceable reprocessing cycles.** Document every cycle with: Date, patient name, procedure performed, serial number of RMD used, person reprocessing (connecting and removal), reprocessing method, cycle parameters (brand/batch number, expiry date, evidence of cycle result)

TRANSDUCER REPROCESSING GUIDELINES

Surface transducer
Intact skin

Ultrasound guided invasive procedure
Transducer does not contact needle or puncture site

Non-critical

CLEANING
Remove gross contamination and ensure grooves are cleaned

Low level (LLD) or intermediate level (ILD) disinfection

Non-critical devices should be stored in a clean, dry place to minimise environmental contamination

Surface transducer
Broken skin, mucous membrane, or body fluids

Ultrasound guided invasive procedure
Transducer comes in contact with needle or puncture site

Endo-cavity transducer
Mucous membranes, open wounds

Semi-critical

CLEANING
Remove gross contamination and ensure grooves are cleaned

High level disinfection (HLD)

Under AS:5369 the use of a transducer cover does not negate the requirement for disinfection to the required level

Semi-critical devices should be kept in a designated storage system to avoid environmental contamination