INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE
ENDOSCOPY RACK

PRODUCT DESCRIPTION
Aesculap’s Endoscopy Rack is a storage system designed to hold laparoscopic and arthroscopic instruments. It consists of a stainless steel frame with silicone holders to secure and protect the endoscopic instruments for sterilization, storage, and transport.

INDICATIONS FOR USE
The use of the Endoscopy Rack for tasks other than those for which it is indicated may result in damage.

HOW SUPPLIED
The Endoscopy Rack is provided non-sterile and must be cleaned and sterilized prior to use according to the procedures outlined in this document.

INSPECTION
Inspect each Endoscopy Rack before each use for possible damage, wear or non-functioning parts. Contact your local sales representative or Aesculap, Inc. for repair or replacement.

PRECAUTIONS
Wear appropriate protective gloves, eyewear and clothing when handling biologically contaminated instruments.
Do not apply excessive stress or strain at joints; misuse will result in misalignment or cracks at the joints of the rack.

CARE AND HANDLING
The Endoscopy Rack must be sterilized before use. Follow the procedures outlined in this document.

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PRE-CLEANING
Using a steady stream of lukewarm/cool water (below 110º), rinse the Endoscopy Rack thoroughly to remove gross debris. Do not use saline or chlorinated solutions.
Give special attention to joints and the channels where the instruments holders attach.

CLEANING
Cleaning Precautions:
Do not soak the Endoscopy Rack in hot water, alcohol, disinfectants or antiseptics to avoid coagulation of mucus, blood or other body fluids. Do not exceed two hours soaking in any solution.
Do not use steel wool, wire brushes, pipe cleaners or abrasive detergents.

a. Manual Cleaning
Hand wash using a low-sudsing protein dissolving detergent. Follow manufacturers’ directions regarding concentration, temperature, contact time and reuse.
Totally immerse the Endoscopy Rack during cleaning to prevent aerosolization.
Use appropriate-sized, soft nylon brushes to clean the Endoscopy Rack.

b. Ultrasonic and Mechanical Cleaning
For ultrasonic cleaning, follow manufacturer’s specifications for water level, concentration levels of cleaning agent and temperature.

Always follow the manufacturer’s specifications for automatic washer-sterilizers and use a free-rinsing, low-sudsing detergent with a neutral pH (6.0 - 8.5). Due to variations in water quality, the type of detergent and its concentration may require adjustment for optimal disinfection and cleaning.

METHODS OF THERMAL DISINFECTANTS

c. Rinsing
Rinse the Endoscopy Rack thoroughly with tap water, deionized or distilled water to remove all traces of debris and cleansing agents.

DECONTAMINATION
Note: The decontamination procedure does not sterilize the Endoscopy Rack. Refer to and process the Endoscopy Rack as outlined in the STERILIZATION section.

Select a proper product for high-level disinfection such as the glutaraldehyde-family of disinfectant products. Follow the cleaning agent’s recommended directions regarding concentration, temperature, contact time and solution re-use.

Do not use high acid (pH 4 or lower) or high alkaline (pH 10 or higher) products for disinfection, such as bleach and bi-chloride of mercury.

Completely immerse the Endoscopy Rack in the disinfecting solution.
Thoroughly rinse with distilled water to remove all traces of disinfecting solution. USE STERILE WATER ON THE FINAL RINSE.

DRYING
The Endoscopy Rack must be thoroughly dried and all residual moisture must be removed before it is stored. Use a soft, absorbent towel/cloth to dry external surfaces. Compressed air or a 70% alcohol rinse may be used to aid the drying process.

STERILIZATION
The Endoscopy Rack may be packaged in rigid containers, woven, or nonwoven materials.

Packaging should ensure sterility of the Endoscopy Rack and instruments until opened for use at the sterile field and permit removal of contents without contamination.

Sterilization of the Endoscopy Rack may be accomplished by steam.

STERILCONTAINER™ Systems
The Endoscopy Rack may also be placed within an Aesculap rigid sterilization container (STERILCONTAINER™) for processing under generally accepted hospital in-use conditions. In a gravity displacement cycle, we recommend the use of a perforated bottom STERILCONTAINER™. For pre-vacuum cycles, either a solid bottom or perforated bottom STERILCONTAINER™ may be used.

Consult the individual instructions for use for each endoscopic instrument placed in the Endoscopy Rack.

The minimum recommended sterilization parameters for Aesculap’s NON-MODULAR endoscopic instruments and MODULAR (disassembled) endoscopic instruments are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sterilization Method</th>
<th>Temp</th>
<th>Wrapped</th>
<th>SteriContainer™ System</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PRE- VACUUM</td>
<td>270º</td>
<td>4 min.</td>
<td>4 min. (solid or perforated bottom)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GRAVITY</td>
<td>250º</td>
<td>15 min.</td>
<td>40 min. (perforated bottom)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>270º</td>
<td>10 min.</td>
<td>30 min. (perforated bottom)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The minimum recommended sterilization parameters for Aesculap's MODULAR INSTRUMENTS (assembled) is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sterilization Method</th>
<th>Temp</th>
<th>Minimum Exposure Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PRE-VACUUM</td>
<td>270°</td>
<td>4 min. (solid or perforated bottom)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>250°</td>
<td>40 min. (perforated bottom)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GRAVITY</td>
<td>270°</td>
<td>30 min. (perforated bottom)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Other sterilization cycles may also be suitable. However, individuals or hospitals not using the recommended methods are advised to validate any alternative method using appropriate laboratory techniques.

**STORAGE**

When not in use, store the Endoscopy Rack in a clean, dry storage area.

**INSTRUMENT HOLDER REPLACEMENT**

The silicone instrument holders can be easily replaced by securely holding the Endoscopy Rack and sliding the inserts out of the channels and replacing with the new inserts. An application of instrument oil along the channels, such as Aesculap's Sterilit Oil, may assist with the insertion.

**WARRANTY**

Every product bearing the Aesculap name is guaranteed to be free of defects in workmanship and materials when used normally for its intended surgical purpose. Any Aesculap product delivered from Aesculap, Inc., proving to be defective, will be replaced or repaired, at Aesculap’s discretion, at no charge to the customer. The silicone instrument inserts are not subject to the Aesculap warranty.

These warranties shall not apply to conditions or defects resulting from, but not limited to: negligence, improper use, improper cleaning and handling, improper opening techniques, unauthorized repair work, caustic or abrasive cleaners, or items modified or customized by the customer at the customer’s request.

**MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR**

If the Endoscopy Rack requires repair or maintenance, return the Endoscopy Rack in a sturdy box with adequate foam, bubbles or other packaging material for protection. Send the packaged Endoscopy Rack to:

Aesculap, Inc.
615 Lambert Pointe Dr.
Hazelwood, MO 63042
Attn: Aesculap Technical Services
or call the Repair Hotline at 1-800-214-3392

Endoscopy Racks returned to Aesculap for repair must have a statement which testifies that each Endoscopy Rack has been thoroughly cleaned and disinfected. Failure to supply evidence of cleaning and disinfection will result in a cleaning charge and delayed processing of your repair.

Products repaired by Aesculap are guaranteed for 90 days to be free of defects in workmanship and parts when used normally for their intended surgical purpose. Any workmanship or parts proving to be defective will be replaced or repaired, at Aesculap’s discretion, at no charge to the customer.

Contact your local Aesculap, Inc. representative if you have any questions.

**References:**


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