



24.06.2008

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INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE & STERILISATION OF CHIROBLOC® & AREX® instruments

GENERAL INFORMATION

AREX® instruments and CHIROBLOC® Hand & Ballast are supplied "**NON-STERILE**".

They must be used by qualified personnel.

Instruments must be used only for the surgical purpose and type for which they were designed. Any breach of this rule **cancel**s the guarantee (CHIROBLOC® Ballast 5 years, CHIROBLOC® Hand 1 year, 5 years for instruments, 1 year of parts in use such as jaws..)

If for any reason an instrument needs to be returned to us, it must first be decontaminated

AREX® reserves the right to request proof of decontamination from clients.



RULES FOR STORING INSTRUMENTS

For storage, remove instruments from their packaging and place in a clean and dry environment.

Do not store close to potentially corrosive products (chlorine).

DECONTAMINATION - CLEANING - STERILISATION

Clean new instruments **before first** sterilisation and after **each use**.

Follow current decontamination protocols.

Our instruments are designed to withstand intensive cleaning in sodium hydroxide solutions.

PROSCRIBED: Do not use cleaning or decontamination solutions containing CHLORINE, ACIDS and ABRASIVES

RULES FOR APPROPRIATE USE OF INSTRUMENTS

Do not use instruments still hot from sterilisation (risk of irreversible jamming).

Do not store, wash or sterilise instruments while locked.

After sterilisation, use a suitable lotion or lubricant for all moving parts (joints, hinges, etc....)

Do not allow an instrument to retain humidity on a laser marking. If this occurs and a brown stain appears, rub hard with a soft cloth.

Indications for preparation in the following table are based on the NF EN ISO 17664 Vs2004 standard.

WARNINGS	Long narrow cannulas and blind holes require particular attention when cleaning.
Repeat procedure limits	Repeated sterilisation procedures have little effect on these instruments. End-of-life is generally determined by wear and damage incurred by use.
INSTRUCTIONS	
Place of use :	Any premises suitable for the practice of medicine, with adequate equipment and personnel qualified for the implementation of these instructions.
Confinement and transport :	No special requirements. Instruments should be processed as soon as possible after use.
Preparations for cleaning :	Always remove any oily residue on items before cleaning. Separate ballast from CHIROBLOC® hand.
Automated cleaning :	Equipment : washer / disinfectant, detergent (enzymatic cleaning solution) , tap water (softened water) 1 Place instruments with joints in 'open' position and allow water to flow through cannulas and holes. 2 Launch cold softened water prewash cycle (2min), apply spray detergent , soak in hot softened water (20sec), enzymatic soak (1min), rinse twice in cold softened water (15sec), wash with detergent in hot water (64 to 66°C) (2min), then rinse twice in hot softened water (15sec). 3 Check cannulas, holes, etc.... are visibly clean of contamination. If necessary, repeat cycle or clean manually.
Manual cleaning :	Equipment: detergent (enzymatic cleaning solution), brush (do not use metal brushes, scouring and abrasive pads), running water. Method: 1 Rinse excess waste from instrument (immerse in detergent for 20 minutes) 2 Scrub cannulas and holes with the brush, making sure it reaches down to the bottom of the instrument. 3 Rinse in clean water for at least 3 minutes. Ensure that water flows through cannulas and that blind holes are filled and emptied several times over. 4 Place prepared cleaning agents in an ultrasonic cleaner, immerse in cleaning solution and activate for 10 minutes at 45–50 kHz. 5 Rinse instrument in purified water for at least 3 minutes or until any visible blood or waste is eliminated, rinse carefully and thoroughly holes and other inaccessible areas. 6 Remove excess moisture from the instrument with a clean, absorbent and fluff-free cloth.
Disinfection :	The disinfectant solution (enzymatic cleaning solution) may be used as directed on label With automatic cleaning, a final thermal rinse with hot water (80 to 93°C) for 2 minutes is a possibility, followed by rinsing with purified water (64 to 66°C) for 10 seconds and hot air drying (116°C) for 7 to 30min to disinfect.
Drying :	In the event of drying as part of a washer/disinfectant cycle, do not exceed 120°C
Maintenance :	After cleaning, apply a small dose of surgical lubricant oil on joints to optimise use of instruments.
Checks and tests of working order :	- Articulated instruments : check that joints move easily, without excessive looseness. - Check on locking mechanisms (hooks, clamps, etc.). - All instruments: inspect visually for signs of wear and tear. Cutting edges must be continuous and unbroken. - Check long thin instruments (particularly rotating items) to detect any sign of distortion. When instruments are part of a complex unit, check proper assembly with corresponding components.
Packaging :	- Individual: standard packaging material may be used. Make sure that the pouch is sufficiently large to house the instrument without stretching the fastener. - In sets: instruments may be placed in a special instrument holder or on ordinary sterilisation trays. Make sure that sharp edges on blades are protected.
Sterilisation :	Vacuum autoclaving, 18min at 134°C.
Conservation :	Do not store instruments close to potentially corrosive products (chlorine)

