



BLOG

Quick tips to make your instrument processing thorough and safe.



HU-FRIEDY MFG CO, INC

Cleaning Monitors

Nontoxic test soil mimics presence of blood, tissue

Proper cleaning is the most important step to instrument reprocessing. If an instrument is not properly cleaned, it cannot be effectively sterilized. We are familiar with the various ways to monitor and check our sterilization process—reading of sterilizer displays, chemical indicators in packs, weekly biological monitoring—but since sterilization cannot be effective when an instrument surface is not clean, it only makes sense that we should more closely monitor our cleaning process. By incorporating Hu-Friedy Cleaning Monitors into instrument reprocessing protocols, clinicians can take the steps to ensure that their cleaning process achieves the highest quality results.

Using multi-parameter testing, Hu-Friedy Cleaning Monitors are designed to provide a clear interpretation of the cleaning process. Until now, no other tests or methods existed in the dental industry that measured multiple parameters to the cleaning process.

"Just like in sterilization, there are various factors at play that ensure your instruments are clean. If any 1 or a combination of these parameters is not appropriate, the effectiveness of the cleaning



process could be insufficient. Cleaning monitors provide confidence that the various parameters of the cleaning process are working together properly to provide an effective cleaning process," said Nancy Kane, Product Manager, Sterilization Products, IMS & Infection Prevention, for Hu-Friedy.

The Cleaning Monitors system consists of equipment-specific monitor strips and a reusable holder. Strips are simply placed inside the holder (to stay put in the equipment) for a normal load/cycle. Results interpretation is simple and quick; full removal of the test soil from the strip indicates an effective cleaning process.

"Routine testing and troubleshooting of your cleaning process creates improved efficiencies in your process that ensure repeated, effective cleaning time after time," Kane said. "In addition, having an effective cleaning process means having clean instruments, which will increase the life span of your instruments."

Proper infection control is the responsibility of all office team members, but especially for the designated Infection Control Coordinator. Adding other safeguards to your cleaning and sterilization protocols will help increase office efficiency and ensure proper instrument reprocessing.

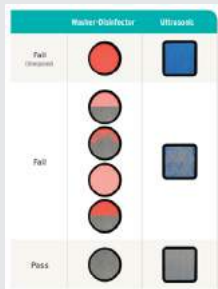
"Not all components of blood and biofilm are visible to the naked eye. The test soil on the Cleaning Monitors is designed to parallel the removal of blood and tissue from instruments. Ensuring an effective cleaning process paves the way for instrument surfaces to be properly sterilized, providing safeguards to safe instrumentation for patient care," Kane added.

THREE POINTS OF PERFORMANCE FOR CLEANING MONITORS

1 Colored test soil on strip is designed to parallel the removal of blood and biofilm from an instrument surface.

2 Cleaning Monitor Holder acts as a hinged instrument measuring impingement in washer-disinfectors

3 Reusable stainless steel holder secures monitor in place in order to provide accurate results



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