

IMS™ Cassettes Troubleshooting Guide

Experiencing issues with your IMS™ Cassettes?

Review this document to find common problems and how to prevent them from occurring.

PROBLEM	CAUSE	PREVENTION
Spotting	Insufficient rinsing after ultrasonic cleaning	Rinse thoroughly under steady stream of water for 30 seconds. Use distilled water if possible
	Insufficient drying after ultrasonic cleaning	Rinse with hot water
	Not changing ultrasonic solution	Solution should be changed at least once a day. Always follow Instructions for Use.
	Sterilizer has not been cleaned	- Follow manufacturer's guidelines for maintenance and cleaning - Use only distilled water for reservoir
Rust	Corrosion from carbon steel instruments spreads to stainless steel instruments	- Separate stainless and carbon instruments - For carbon steel instruments: Dip in pre-sterilization solution as suggested by sterilizer manufacturer
	Abrasion can destroy the chromium/oxide surface	Lubricate joints and lock area
	Sterilizer not clean	Follow manufacturer's guidelines for maintenance and cleaning
Pitting	Chemical attack on instruments	- Rinse and dry instruments thoroughly - Use approved cleaning and sterilization solutions only, never use household bleach or stain and tartar remover
	Chlorides (water leakage from water softener or additives containing chlorides)	Use demineralized or distilled water in final rinse.
	Organic residues (blood, saliva, sweat)	Use approved cleaning and sterilization solutions only. Never use bleach, tartar or cement remover

PROBLEM	CAUSE	PREVENTION
Staining Resin Cassettes		
Black/ Purple	Amalgam left in carrier	- Thoroughly remove amalgam or other compounds from the instrument prior to processing - If carrier is plugged, sterilize separately and unplug while carrier is warm
	Contact with ammonia	Use only proper and approved cleaning agents and rinse thoroughly
Green	Chrome breakdown of instruments	Inspect instruments and replace those with cracked handles or peeled plating
Yellow/ Brown	Sterilizer has not been cleaned	- Change reservoir water once a week - Regularly clean chamber and filters according to manufacturer's instructions
	Normal use discoloration	Every 6 months soak resin cassettes (without instruments and not in the ultrasonic) in 2 cups bleach to 1 gallon of water for 5 to 30 minutes
Brown/ Blue	Sterilizer has not been cleaned	Regularly clean chamber and filters according to manufacturer's instructions
Turning Matte Gray	Excessive lime in water	Use demineralized or distilled water for softened water in cleaning stage
	Cement remover has been in contact with instruments	Wipe off cement removers prior to placing in an automatic washer
Cassette Issues		
Broken Hinges	Overloading/ improperly placed instruments	- Instruments should not protrude from cassette - Only light force is needed to close the cassette
	Improperly placed rails	Do not reposition cassette rails
Wet Packs	Insufficient drying before or during sterilization	- Thoroughly dry cassette after cleaning, before wrapping - Do not open autoclave door during dry cycle
	Improper loading of cassettes in sterilizer	- Do not overpack sterilizer - Do not stack cassettes on top of each other - Always use sterilizer's cassette rack

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Reprocessing Do's and Don'ts

DO!

- ✓ Wear utility gloves when handling contaminated cassettes and instruments.
- ✓ Change the ultrasonic solution at least once a day or when visibly soiled. Dirty solution harbors particles that may inhibit efficient cleaning process.
- ✓ Wipe off cement residue, glass ionomer and/or other heavy debris at chairside immediately after use.
- ✓ Use Enzymax™ products when cleaning IMS™ Cassettes and instruments for best results.
- ✓ Sharpen instruments at chairside after sterilization and before a procedure. Sharpening Stones can be processed along with instruments in the IMS™ Cassette.
- ✓ Autoclave utility gloves in separate sterilization pouches.

DON'T!

- ✗ Let instruments protrude from cassettes.
- ✗ Overload the cassette. If there is resistance when closing cassette, stop. Remove excess items and repeat the closing process. Forcing cassette to close under stress may inhibit future performance.
- ✗ Reprocess mixed metals in the same cycle.
- ✗ Reposition the location of the rails in cassettes. Improper rail location may cause undue stress on the cassette and can damage it.
- ✗ Use IMS™ Autoclave Wrap in dry heat sterilization.
- ✗ Run ultrasonic unit or steam autoclave without water.

For more information visit [HuFriedyGroup.com](https://www.HuFriedyGroup.com)

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