



May 12, 2017

RE: Detergents Compatible with Olympus Endoscopy Equipment

Dear Health Care Professional,

This letter is in response to your recent inquiry regarding detergents that are compatible with Olympus endoscopy equipment.

Olympus no longer conducts an extensive detergent testing program. Based upon experience in the U.S. and Canadian market, Olympus believes that many medical instrument detergents should be compatible with Olympus endoscopy equipment. The general characteristics of detergents found to be compatible with Olympus endoscopy equipment are low-foaming, neutral pH, and formulated for use with medical instruments. The detergent may be enzymatic or non-enzymatic, but should be described by the detergent manufacturer as safe to use on flexible endoscopes. The specific detergent chosen by your institution should be determined by national and local guidelines, as well as your facility's infection control department.

Olympus recommends against the routine use of household detergents, because excessive foaming associated with many household detergents reduces the efficacy of the cleaning process. Do not reuse detergent solutions and follow the manufacturer's instructions for contact time, temperature and proper dilution. Using a detergent concentration that is higher than that specified by the detergent manufacturer may result in inadequate rinsing and residual detergent interacting with the liquid chemical germicide used for high-level disinfection/sterilization. Residual detergent may reduce the efficacy of the liquid chemical germicide and/or cause equipment damage.

Although Olympus generally recommends use of products that have been tested for compatibility, the fact that we have not tested a specific medical detergent in no way prejudices its compatibility with Olympus endoscopy equipment; nor does the use of an untested detergent automatically void the Olympus standard warranty. Nevertheless, Olympus cannot accept the responsibility for damage attributable to the use of untested products.

If you have any additional questions, please contact your local Olympus sales representative or the Olympus Technical Assistance Center at 1-800-848-9024 (United States) or 1-800-387-0437 (Canada).

Sincerely,

Olympus

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