INSTRUMENT DECONTAMINATION, CLEANING AND LUBRICATION

1. Decontamination of instruments should occur immediately after the completion of the surgical procedure.

    a. Instruments should immediately be soaked in a disinfectant solution, such as Control III. Instruments must soak for a minimum of 10 minutes prior to handling by staff.
    b. Instruments are then to be rinsed with tap water and soaked in an enzymatic cleaner, such as one (1) packet ¾ oz. Ez-Zyme to one (1) gallon of water, for a minimum of ten minutes to remove all visible bioburden and debris. Rinse again with tap water.

2. Instruments are to be manually cleaned following general decontamination. Staff are to wear protective attire during manual cleaning of instruments. Instruments are to be submerged in warm TAP WATER and enzymatic solution, and should be cleaned while submerged.

    a. During manual cleaning of instruments, staff should wear scrubs, shoe covers, a hair bonnet, protective eyewear, a mask or faceshield, gloves, and an impervious disposable apron.
    b. Instruments are to be separated utilizing tongs to prevent inadvertent injury by sharp instruments.
    c. Cannulas and lumened instruments are to be cleaned thoroughly with a small brush. With the cannula tip in the enzymatic solution, a cleaning brush is run the length of the interior of the cannula several times to remove all tissue. Using a fresh water and enzymatic solution, the cannulas (with tip submerged) are flushed several times with the solution using a 30cc syringe. Cannulas are then scrubbed with instrument polish.
    d. Instruments should be scrubbed with a brush or mildly abrasive pad and an instrument cleaner such as Sklar instrument polish. Hinged instruments should be opened and cleaned thoroughly. Instruments should be rinsed with TAP WATER following scrubbing.

3. Instruments are processed in an Ultrasonic Cleaner to remove small bits of debris from instrument crevices.

    a. The ultrasonic tank should be filled with 4.5 gallons of DISTILLED WATER with ¾ ounce of Ez-Zyme for every gallon of water placed into the ultrasonic. The Ultrasonic Cleaner should never be operated with less than two (2) inches of solution in the tank.
    b. Dissimilar instruments (e.g. copper, brass, stainless steel) should not be combined in the Ultrasonic Cleaner to prevent ionic transfer which can cause etching and pitting.
    c. Using tongs, instruments should be arranged in an orderly fashion in the Ultrasonic Tray so all surfaces are exposed to the action of the Ultrasonic Cleaner. Scissors and lighter weight instruments should be placed on top. Instruments should be fully submerged. Instruments should never be placed directly onto the floor of the Ultrasonic Machine.
    d. The lid must be in place while the Ultrasonic is ON. Instruments should be cleaned in the Ultrasonic for a minimum of 10 minutes.
    e. Instruments should be rinsed with running DISTILLED WATER and drained after the ultrasonic cleaning to remove surface particles.

4. Instruments should be soaked in DISTILLED WATER for at least one minute prior to lubrication. This helps to remove any minerals left on the instruments, thus inhibiting rusting, discoloration, and blackening of the cannula hubs and liposuction handles. Non-hinged instruments are ready for packaging and sterilization. Cannulas should be dipped in the distilled water immediately prior to packaging as the wet lumen ensures a higher level of sterilization.

5. All Hinged (instruments with movable parts) instruments should be soaked in lubricant following the cleaning process, prior to packaging, to prevent rusting, staining and corrosion, improve function, and allow penetration of steam. The lubricant is also designed to lessen the growth of bacteria. The lubricant must be water soluble to allow steam penetration.

    a. Prepare lubricant solution by adding one part Hinge-Free to six parts DISTILLED WATER.
    b. Instruments should be completely immersed in the lubricant bath for one minute.
    c. Lubricating solution should not be rinsed or wiped off. Instruments are now ready for packaging and sterilization. Instruments should be dried prior to storage to prevent rust formation.

- This is the preferred procedure used in Dr. Klein's practice and is up to each individual to decide for their own practice.