







Original Handpiece & Instrument Wipes

- Cleans & shines
- No spotting
- Disposable
- Convenient
- Non-corrosive
- pH neutral

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HAYES

OneStep[™] Handpiece Lubricant

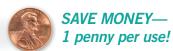
Superior Handpiece Protection

Received top rating on industry-standard 4-ball wear test, which means longer turbine life!



4 types of Hayes **OneStep available:**

- Metered-Dose Aerosol No mess—use the right amount of lubricant every time
- Standard Aerosol
- Dropper Bottle
- 500 ml bottle for Adec Assistina





WHY FINISH THE **DRYING CYCLE?**

HandpieceHeadlines

April - June 2010

Your Source for Industry New Market Marion

AUTOCLAVING: New Reasons to Finish the Drying Cycle

CDC Guidelines for Handpiece Maintenance

GUIDELINES

for **HANDPIECE**

MAINTENANCE

PART 3

Everything you sterilize should

finish the drying cycle

le have always told customers to make sure to leave handpieces and instruments in the autoclave until the drying cycle is complete. We know that removing items early can lead

to spotting and eventual pitting of the | to maintain sterility," explains Dr. Harte. handpiece shell or instrument.

The CDC (Centers for Disease Control)

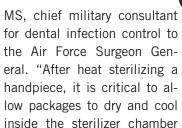
has now given us another reason to complete the autoclave drying cycle. Recent CDC Guidelines for Infection Control in Dental Health-Care Settings state the following:

"Instrument packs should be allowed to dry inside the sterilizer chamber before removing and handling. Packs should not be touched until they are cool and dry because

hot packs act as wicks, absorbing moisture, and hence, bacteria from hands."

Wicking

We discussed this phenomenon known as "wicking" with Jennifer A. Harte, DDS,



"Autoclave packs should not be touched until they are cool and dry because hot

packs act as wicks, absorbing moisture, and hence, bacteria from hands and the environment."

This means a damp autoclave bag could pick up bacteria from a dental assistant's bare hands or gloves, or even a countertop or tray. "This pertains to all sterilized packages." says Harte. "not just those containing handpieces."

Technology We know it is very

common for handpieces to not be used immediately after being autoclaved. Frequently the autoclave pouches remain closed and the handpieces stay in them during storage or even transportation (possibly to Haves for repair). If these

continued on next page >>



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FREE LUNCH & LEARN MENU:







Instrument Audit



New Handpiece & Instrument

CDC Guidelines for Handpiece Maintenance

CDC

MAINTENANCE

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continued from page 1

handpieces have not completed the drying cycle, and they are picked up and placed into a cabinet or drawer for future use, that's when even more moisture from

hands gets into the pouches, creating the ideal breeding ground for bacteria.

Another concern is that the paper side of wet bags, especially those heavy containing instruments, can

easily tear, exposing the sterilized item to the air. Of course, anything placed into the autoclave should continue to be packaged and the quality of the autoclave bag should be considered. "The purpose of packaging is to protect instruments from contamination after removal from the sterilizer and during storage," says Harte. "Therefore, instruments must be packaged before being placed in the sterilizer and quality packaging materials must be used to ensure sterility is maintained."

Drying Cycle Options

If a vacuum drying cycle is not available, such as with a pre/post vacuum autoclave, you could use another method for drying packs such as an automatic opendoor drying cycle or having the sterilizer pull in fresh air through filters. "If these options are not available, it is necessary

to manually open the sterilizer door to allow moisture to escape," states Harte. If you are having a problem with wet packs and cannot resolve the issue af-

> ter consulting the sterilizer instruction manuals, you should contact the manufacturer for assistance.

For more information, review the CDC Guidelines for Infection Control in

Dental Health-Care Settings at www.cdc. gov/OralHealth/infectioncontrol/guidelines/

Hayes Handpiece offers free maintenance demonstrations where we review proper autoclaving procedures with office staff. Please call your local office to schedule your maintenance demonstration. All attendees receive one free CE credit.

DISCLAIMER: The opinions expressed in this article are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the official policy of the U.S. Department of Defense or other departments of the U.S. government.



Special thanks to **JENNIFER** A. HARTE, DDS, MS for her expertise. Dr. Harte is the chief military consultant for dental infection control to the Air Force Surgeon General, U.S. Air Force Dental **Evaluation and Consultation** Service, Great Lakes, IL.

GET YOUR STATIM AUTOCLAVE DRY IN 15 MINUTES



Bubble at 5 o'clock

"After heat sterilizing a

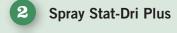
handpiece, it is critical

to allow packages to

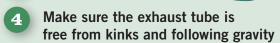
dry and cool inside the

sterilizer chamber to

maintain sterility,"



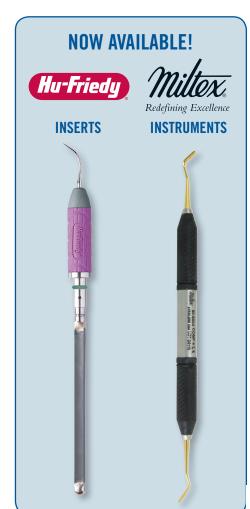






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