



OLYMPUS AMERICA INC.

TWO CORPORATE CENTER DRIVE TEL (631) 844 5000
MELVILLE, NEW YORK FAX (631) 844 5605
11747-3157

June 29, 1998

RE: Detergents Compatible with Olympus Flexible Endoscopes

Dear Health Care Practitioner:

You had requested a current list of detergents which are compatible with Olympus flexible endoscopes. Olympus does not conduct an extensive detergent testing program, partially because the exposure period to detergent is normally brief. However, we have tested a limited number of agents which are common in the U.S. market. The following is a list of detergents which have been tested and found to be compatible:

Brand Name	Manufacturer	Enzymatic
Cavicide	Metrex (800) 841-1428	no
Enzol	Advanced Sterilization Products (888) 783-7723	yes
Endozime	Ruhof (800) 537-8463	yes
Metrizyme	Metrex (800) 841-1428	yes

Based upon experience in the U.S. market, Olympus believes that many of the medical instrument detergents should be compatible with our flexible endoscopes. Olympus' general recommendation is for a low foaming, neutral pH detergent which has been formulated for use with medical instruments. The detergent may also contain enzymes and should be bacteriostatic.

Olympus recommends against the use of household detergents, especially in automated reprocessors. This is because the bacterial growth and excessive foaming observed with many household detergents can interfere with effective cleaning.

Though Olympus recommends use of only those products which have passed our testing, use of an untested products product in no way prejudices its compatibility with Olympus endoscopes nor does it automatically void the Olympus standard warranty. However, Olympus cannot accept the responsibility for damage attributable to the use of untested products just as we cannot be responsible for damage which results from the improper use of an approved product. Such situations cannot be, and in fact, never have been covered under the terms of our warranty.

Sincerely,

Steve Goldstine, DDS, PhD
Manager, Microbiology
Product Development
(631) 844 5461