



March 23, 2009

RE: Detergents Compatible with Olympus Flexible Endoscopes

Dear Healthcare Professional,

This letter is in response to your recent inquiry regarding detergents that are compatible with Olympus flexible endoscopes. Olympus has tested a limited number of detergents that are common in the U.S. market. The following detergents have been tested and were found to be compatible with Olympus flexible endoscopes:

Brand Name	Manufacturer
Cavicide	Metrex Research Corporation www.metrex.com (800) 841-1428
Endozime	Ruhof www.ruhof.com (800) 537-8463
Enzol	Advanced Sterilization Products www.enzol.com (888) 783-7723
Metrizyme	Metrex Research Corporation www.metrex.com (800) 841-1428

Olympus no longer conducts an extensive detergent testing program. Based upon experience in the U.S. market, Olympus believes that many medical instrument detergents should be compatible with Olympus flexible endoscopes. The general characteristics of detergents found to be compatible with Olympus flexible endoscopes are low-foaming, neutral pH, and formulated for use with medical instruments. In addition, the detergent may be enzymatic and should be bacteriostatic or bactericidal. Olympus recommends against the routine use of household detergents, because excessive foaming observed with many household detergents may reduce 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 high concentration of detergent solution may result in inadequate rinsing and residual detergent interacting with the liquid chemical germicide used for high-level disinfection/sterilization. This may result in reducing the efficacy of the liquid chemical germicide and/or cause equipment damage.

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Although Olympus generally recommends use of products that have been tested for compatibility, the fact that we have not tested a specific medical device detergent in no way prejudices its compatibility with Olympus flexible endoscopes; 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 ext 703211 (Canada). Thank you.

Sincerely,

Olympus