

## SKLAR STAINLESS STEEL SURGICAL INSTRUMENTS RECOMMENDED CARE & CLEANING INSTRUCTIONS

**CAUTION:** The following instructions are for all Sklar Stainless Steel Surgical Instruments. Read instructions prior to use. Improper operation and care or use for purposes other than that intended can lead to premature wearing out of the surgical instruments. Always process new instruments prior to initial use.

### 1. PRE-TREATMENT

**General** Blood and body fluids can cause pitting on instruments and if left to dry, can be difficult to remove. In order to achieve successful decontamination, disinfection and sterilization, always wipe or rinse instruments immediately after use. If rinsing is not immediately available, pre-treat instruments with a neutral pH/enzymatic solution at point of service. Sklar Spray-Zyme™ (10-2722) is a multi-enzymatic spray that creates long lasting, heavy foam specifically designed for pre-cleaning soiled instruments and scopes.

### 2. RINSING

**General** Immediately after surgery, remove organic material by rinsing soiled instruments under cold running water. Never process Steel, Magnesium, Aluminum or Zinc based materials with Stainless Steel. Always wear protective apparel as a standard precaution. Refer to OSHA and AORN standards for recommended precautions.

### 3. CLEANING

**General** Transport instruments to decontamination processing/cleaning area. Always keep soiled instruments covered during transport to prevent exposure to blood borne pathogens or other potentially infectious organisms. Before beginning the cleaning process, ensure that instruments have been thoroughly rinsed with copious amounts of cool running water. Separate instruments with dissimilar metals. Several methods of cleaning are available. Improper cleaning methods can result in damage to instruments or equipment and limit the warranty. See also AAMI TIR12.

**Soak** An enzymatic cleaning bath or neutral pH detergent effectively breaks down organic material from instruments when fully submerged for 10 minutes. Sklar Enzymatic™ (10-2777) is an effective neutral pH enzymatic cleaner that can be safely used on stainless steel instruments, rubber, plastic, equipment and cloth. Phosphate-free Sklar Kleen™ (10-1613 or 10-1630) is ideal for cleaning stainless steel instruments and glassware. Take care to prevent sharp tips (scissors, knives, osteotomes, etc.) from touching. Do not mix dissimilar metals. Thoroughly rinse instruments with cool running tap water (use distilled or demineralized water if possible) to remove solution(s). Change solutions as directed.

**SKLAR STAINLESS STEEL SURGICAL INSTRUMENTS  
RECOMMENDED CARE & CLEANING INSTRUCTIONS****Ultrasonic  
Cleaning**

Mechanical cleaning of surgical instruments is the preferred cleaning method as it efficiently removes soil and provides consistent washing and rinsing parameters.

1. Fully submerge all instruments in an open position to effectively clean hinges, box locks and other moving parts. Prevent sharp tips (scissors, knives, osteotomes, etc.) from touching to avoid scratching. Do not mix dissimilar metals. Use distilled or demineralized water if possible.
2. Follow ultrasonic cleaner manufacturer's operating instructions.
3. Rinse instruments with water to remove cleaning solution(s).
4. Always lubricate instruments prior to sterilization. Sklar Instru-Guard™ Lubricant Spray (10-1636) or Concentrate (10-1635) is an easy-to-use, water-soluble lubricant and rust inhibitor. Regular lubrication is essential to ensure the life of instruments.

**Note:** Sklar Kleen™ Liquid (10-1613) and Powder (10-1630) formula, as well as Sklar Enzymatic™ (10-2777) are safe for use in ultrasonic cleaners.

**Caution:** Processing needle holders and forceps with the ratchet in a closed position may crack box locks and hinges.

**Automatic  
Washer  
Sterilizer**

Mechanical cleaning of surgical instruments is the preferred cleaning method as it efficiently removes soil and provides consistent washing and rinsing parameters. Follow manufacturer's operating instructions. Sklar Kleen™ Low Foam (10-2701) is safe for use in automatic cleaners. Ensure instruments are lubricated after the final rinse cycle and before sterilization.

**Manual  
Cleaning**

Always wash instruments in a manner that provides proper decontamination.

1. Mix a neutral pH detergent / enzymatic solution with luke-warm water following the manufacturer's mixing instructions and immerse instruments if possible. Highly acidic or highly alkaline pH detergents are not recommended for use on Sklar instruments. Sklar Kleen™ Liquid (10-1613) and Powder (10-1630), as well as Sklar Enzymatic™ (10-2777) are effective manual cleaning agents.
2. Use a soft nylon brush (10-1657 or 10-1651) to manually scrub instruments, concentrating on hinged areas, crevices and other difficult to clean locations. Limit use of stainless steel brushes (10-1652 or 10-1650) to serrated areas, bone files or burs.
3. Brush delicate instruments carefully, separating them from general instruments whenever possible.
4. Prevent scratching by not allowing sharp tips (scissors, knives, osteotomes, etc.) from touching.
5. Visibly check instruments to ensure surfaces are clean and free from damage, stains and bioburden.

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- Manual Cleaning
6. Check instruments for proper function and condition: smooth blade closure and opening, proper jaw alignment, working hinges, and proper locking ratchets. Sklar Polish™ is an efficient stain and mineral remover for use on all of your metal surgical instruments, including stainless steel, chrome and brass. May also be used on porcelain and the surfaces.
  7. Thoroughly rinse instruments using running water (distilled or demineralized water is recommended), paying close attention to hinged areas, box locks and moving parts to ensure they are rinsed thoroughly and no debris remains.
  8. If to be stored, use a clean, lint-free cloth to dry instruments.
  9. Lubricate instruments prior to packaging or sterilization.
  10. Always store in a clean, dry environment

**4. STERILIZATION**

General All blood, body fluids and tissue should be completely removed from instruments prior to sterilization. Separate dissimilar metals prior to sterilization.

Lubrication Lubrication is key to preserving the proper function of your instruments. Lubricate all hinged instruments that have metal-to-metal contact at the screw or box lock. A non-silicone, water-soluble lubricant such as Sklar Instru-Guard™ Lube (10-1636 or 10-1635) is recommended. Do not rinse. Do not use industrial oils or lubricants.

- Autoclaving
1. Process instruments individually or in sets.
  2. Protect sharp tips. Place heavy instruments on the bottom of sets.
  3. Always process all instruments in the open position. Instruments locked during sterilization can develop cracked hinges or other problems resulting from heat expansion.
  4. Autoclave instruments according to AAMI ST79 standards. Sklar stainless steel instruments have been validated for the following steam sterilization cycles (wrapped configuration): Pre-Vacuum Steam, 4min. @ 132°C/270°F with 20min. Dry Time. Gravity Displacement Steam, 15min. @ 132°C/270°F with 15-30min. Dry Time.

**Note:** Make sure autoclave chambers are cleaned regularly and as recommended by the manufacturer.

Chemical/  
Cold  
Sterilization Fully immerse clean, dry instruments in solution. Most chemical/cold sterilization solutions render instruments sterile after a minimum of 10 hours. Closely follow sterilant manufacturer's instructions. The glutaraldehyde liquid chemical sterilant and high-level disinfectant, Sklar-Cide™ (10-1623), is recommended.

**Caution:** Prolonged chemical action can be detrimental to instruments. Tungsten Carbide instruments are not recommended for use in chemical/cold sterilization solutions.

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To properly care for and maintain the life of your instruments, Sklar recommends its line of cleaning agents.

P/N	Description	Application	
10-2722	Sklar Spray-Zyme™ 22oz. Bottles, 12/cs	• Pre-Treatment	
10-2724	Sklar Spray-Zyme™ 1 Gallon Bottles, 4/cs		
10-2777	Sklar Enzymatic™ Detergent 1 Gallon Bottles, 4/cs	• Cleaning Soak • Ultrasonic Cleaning • Manual Cleaning	
10-2775	Sklar Enzymatic™ Detergent 1 Gallon Bottles, 2/cs		
10-2776	Sklar Enzymatic™ Detergent 1 Gallon Bottles, 1/ea		
10-2701	Sklar Kleen™ Low Foam 1 Gallon Bottles, 4/cs	• Ultrasonic Cleaning • Cleaning Soak • Manual Cleaning • Automatic Washer Sterilizer	
10-2702	Sklar Kleen™ Low Foam 1 Gallon Bottle, 1/ea		
10-1608	Sklar Kleen™ Powder 5lb. Container, 4/cs		
10-1607	Sklar Kleen™ Powder 5lb. Container, 1/ea		
10-1630	Sklar Kleen™ Powder 3.5lb. Pitcher, 6/cs		
10-2765	Sklar Kleen™ Powder 3.5lb. Pitcher, 1/ea		
10-1612	Sklar Kleen™ Liquid 8oz. Bottles, 6/cs		
10-1614	Sklar Kleen™ Liquid 8oz. Bottles, 1/ea		
10-1613	Sklar Kleen™ Liquid 1 Gallon Bottles, 4/cs		
10-1627	Sklar Kleen™ Liquid 1 Gallon Bottles, 1/ea		
10-1623	Sklar-Cide™ 28 HLD 1 Gallon Bottles, 4/cs		• Cold Sterilization
10-1624	Sklar-Cide™ 28 HLD 1 Gallon Bottle, 1/ea		
10-1635	Sklar Instru-Guard™ Lube 1 Gallon Concentrate, 4/cs		• Lubrication
10-1634	Sklar Instru-Guard™ Lube 1 Gallon Concentrate, 1/ea		
10-1636	Sklar Instru-Guard™ Lube 8oz. Spray Bottles, 12/cs		
10-1637	Sklar Instru-Guard™ Lube 8oz. Spray Bottles, 1/ea		
10-1626	Sklar Polish™ Corrosive Stain Remover, 8oz. Jar, 12/cs	• Instrument & Autoclave Maintenance	
10-1629	Sklar Polish™ Corrosive Stain Remover, 8oz. Jar, 6/cs		
10-1927	Sklar Polish™ Corrosive Stain Remover, 8oz. Jar, 1/ea		

**Note:** It is the responsibility of the reprocessor to ensure that the reprocessing, as actually performed using equipment, materials and personnel in the reprocessing facility, achieves the desired result. This requires validation and routine monitoring of the process. Likewise any deviation by the user from the instructions provided must be properly evaluated for effectiveness and potential adverse consequences.