

Quality Assurance Systems:

Westminster Instruments comply with numerous international accreditations and standards, such as:

- ISO 13485:2016 Approved by TUV Product Service GmbH, an international standard that certifies the manufacturer to be successfully practicing comprehensive management systems for the design and manufacture of Medical Devices
- ISO 9001:2000 and EN 46001 Approved by TUV Product Service GmbH, another international standard that certifies the manufacturer to be applying consistent business processes and quality system requirements for the design/development, production, and where relevant, installation and servicing of medical devices
- CE Marked as Medical Devices by TUV Product Service GmbH, Germany

Instruments intended use:

The Westminster range of instruments have been designed for use in Podiatry treatments and procedures. These instruments are designed to perform specific functions such as cutting, nail filing, grasping, clamping, holding blades for surgical and non-surgical procedures. All instruments are designed to be steam sterilised prior to use.

Contraindication:

Instruments should not be used for anything other than their intended use.

Cautions:

- Read all sections of this document prior to use.
- Westminster instruments are supplied in an un-sterilised state and must be cleaned, lubricated (if required) and sterilised prior to use according local sterilisation standards or infection control guidelines.
- Inappropriate use of instruments may result in patient injury, compromised or damaged instruments.
- Proper cleaning, handling, sterilisation and standard routine maintenance (such as sharpening, lubrication if applicable) will ensure that the instruments perform as intended and will extend their useful life.
- Some instruments require special handling to prevent damaging the tips. Use caution during cleaning and sterilisation.
- Wear appropriate protective gloves, eyewear and clothing when handling biologically contaminated instruments.
- Instruments manufactured from different metals or with special coating, should be processed separately to avoid electrolytic action between the different metals.
- Before use, inspect instruments for possible damage, irregularities or non-functioning parts.
- Carefully inspect the critical, inaccessible areas, joints and all movable parts.
- Damaged or defective instruments should not be used or processed.
- Do not use steel wool, wire brushes, pipe cleaners or abrasive detergents to remove soil as these may damage the instrument and lead to corrosion.
- Never attempt to make any repairs to instruments. Contact place of purchase for further assistance.

Prior to Initial Processing:

Especially in the case of instruments with box joints and/or hinges, there may be remnants of oils used in the manufacturing process that are still present. It is important to THOROUGHLY clean and RINSE all foreign materials that may exist within the instrument prior to initial sterilisation. The presence of these oils can be hardened during sterilisation, causing the instrument to seize-up.

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Cleaning instructions:

Proper instrument care will prolong the life-span of instruments and assist in their proper function.

- Immediately after treatment/procedure, remove organic materials by rinsing instruments in an approved cleaning solution.
- Do not mix dissimilar metals - eg: stainless steel with carbon steel or aluminium.
- We recommend Ultrasonic Cleaning as the most effective way to clean your instruments.
- Ensure all instruments that contain box joints or hinges are open so that these areas are fully exposed during the cleaning process.
- Upon completion of the cleaning process, THOROUGHLY RINSE instruments to ensure no cleaning agents are left on the surface or in hinges (where present).
- Thoroughly dry instruments immediately and lubricate all instruments that have 'metal-to-metal' contact (eg: nail clippers) using an approved lubricant.
- Open and close the clipper repeatedly to work the lubricant into the hinges.

The Harms of Tap Water when Cleaning:

Depending on the quality of your mains water supply, it may not be suitable for instrument cleaning. Water that contains high concentrations of minerals can leave deposits on the instrument surface. Left unattended, this may result in staining. Rinsing with distilled water and immediately drying instruments after rinsing can assist greatly in reducing the presence of staining and discolouration.

Sterilisation:

The following is a guide only. Adherence to any local sterilisation standards or infection control guidelines must be considered in conjunction with the following:

- Use only distilled water within your autoclave. Tap water may damage the device and stain instruments.
- Ensure instruments are thoroughly cleaned and RINSED of any cleaning agents that have been used.
- Prior to sterilisation, lubricate all hinged instruments with an approved lubricant.
- Instruments may be sterilised individually or in sets, as long as instruments made of dissimilar metals are not autoclaved together

Storage of Sterilised Instrument Packs:

After drying the instruments completely, place them in a dry and clean place. Do not store them in places where chemicals may emit corrosive fumes or where fluctuating temperature or humidity may cause vapor to condense on the instruments. Instruments should be stored in dry, clean and humidity-free areas. Refer to local sterilisation standards or infection control guidelines for up-to-date information on the storage of sterilised instrument packs.

Transportation:

When transportation is required, ensure instruments are stored in a suitable/approved carrying device and where sharps are concerned, instrument tip protectors are recommended for safety and to minimise damage to tips.

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