

# HIGH-LEVEL DISINFECTION – METRICIDE OPA PLUS SOLUTION

## HOW TO USE METRICIDE® OPA PLUS SOLUTION

MetriCide OPA Plus Solution is a high-level disinfectant with a 0.6% concentration of *ortho*-Phthalaldehyde. It is effective for reprocessing endoscopes and other heat-sensitive, semi-critical medical devices. MetriCide OPA Plus Solution is gentle on instruments, provides a broad spectrum of kill, and does not require activation or dilution. It may be reused for up to 14 days when monitored according to label instructions for use.

This helpful chart provides eight easy steps for you to follow when using MetriCide OPA Plus Solution and Test Strips. For complete instructions and product information, refer to the MetriCide OPA Plus Solution instructions for use.

### 1) Use personal protective equipment



When handling disinfectants, the user should always wear appropriate safety gear. Be sure to wear protective equipment, including nitrile gloves, fluid-repelling gown and eye protection at all times when handling high-level disinfectants and contaminated instruments. MetriCide OPA Plus Solution can discolor skin or stain clothing. If your skin comes in contact with MetriCide OPA Plus Solution, wash thoroughly with soap and water. Any discoloration of skin is temporary and should disappear within 1 to 2 days. Check the MetriCide OPA Plus Solution labeling for further information on protective measures.

### 2) Precleaning instruments



Before you immerse instruments in MetriCide OPA Plus Solution, thoroughly preclean soiled medical devices to remove all remaining proteinaceous debris and bioburden. Metrex offers a number of reliable precleaners — EmPower® Foam, EmPower dual-enzymatic detergent and MetriSponge®. To remove dried bioburden, manually preclean the instrument with MetriSponge, a specially contoured sponge saturated with MetriZyme® Heavy-Duty dual-enzymatic detergent. Each sponge fits snugly around endoscopes and cylindrical instruments to remove gross contaminants prior to immersion.



After scrubbing the instruments with MetriSponge, soak them in a container filled with a diluted concentration of EmPower dual-enzymatic detergent (1 ounce per gallon of water) until all soil is dissolved. EmPower dissolves protein, is mild in pH, is low-foaming, and is easily rinsed from instruments.

Once the instruments have been removed from the solution, thoroughly rinse with large amounts of fresh water, and air or towel dry. Inspect the instrument and if necessary, repeat precleaning steps. Refer to the instrument manufacturer's labeling for additional instructions on disassembly, decontamination, cleaning and leak testing of their equipment.

### 3) Using MetriCide OPA Plus Solution



After precleaning your instruments, they are ready for high-level disinfection. MetriCide OPA Plus Solution can be used to disinfect all semi-critical medical devices both manually and in an automatic endoscope reprocessor.



MetriCide OPA Plus Solution carries an unopened shelf life of two years. After opening, the solution remaining in the original container may be stored for up to 75 days. When the container is first opened, be sure to record the date on the container label and in a log book. The solution placed in a vessel or basin (secondary container) must be discarded after 14 days even if a MetriCide OPA Plus Solution Test Strip indicates a concentration above the 0.3% minimum recommended concentration (MRC).

### 4) Using test strips and logging data



The concentration of your MetriCide OPA Plus Solution must be verified by a MetriCide OPA Plus Solution Test Strip prior to each use to guard against dilution that may lower the *ortho*-Phthalaldehyde level of the solution below its MRC. Submerge the MetriCide OPA Plus Solution Test Strip indicator pad into the solution for two seconds and then remove. Shake the strip to remove excess solution. Hold the strip horizontally and read the results at 60 seconds.

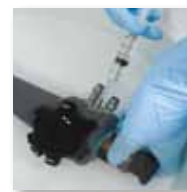


A yellow background dye is included in the indicator of each test strip. The pad color will be completely magenta to indicate a concentration of OPA at or above the MRC for the MetriCide OPA Plus Solution. If any yellow appears on the indicating pad at 60 seconds, the solution should be discarded. Refer to the color chart on the test strip bottle for interpretation of test results.

Log each test result into the MetriCide OPA Plus Solution Test Strip Log Book. For additional log sheets, visit [www.metrex.com](http://www.metrex.com).

The used solution must be discarded after 14 days, even if the MetriCide OPA Plus Solution Test Strip indicates a concentration above the MRC.

### 5) High-level disinfection



After verifying the MRC with a MetriCide OPA Plus Solution Test Strip, MetriCide OPA Plus Solution can be used for disinfecting in both manual or automatic endoscope reprocessing systems. Based on the method you are using, please reference the steps below for details.

**Manual processing:** Immerse the precleaned and dried instrument completely in MetriCide OPA Plus Solution. If applicable, fill all lumens and channels. Soak instruments in MetriCide OPA Plus Solution for 12 minutes at a minimum temperature of 20°C (68°F) or higher for high-level disinfection. Remove the device from the solution and rinse thoroughly following the rinsing instructions below.

**Using an automatic endoscope reprocessor (AER) (photo not shown):** Insert the precleaned and dried instrument into the AER. Set the AER to a minimum of 25°C (77°F) with a minimum immersion time of five minutes for high-level disinfection. Press Start and conduct the reprocessing cycle per the manufacturer's instructions for use. Note: If your AER cannot be set to a minimum of 25°C, follow the time and temperature stated in Indications for Use for Manual Processing on the MetriCide OPA Plus Solution bottle label.

### 6) Rinsing instruments



**After manual processing:** After removing the instrument from the MetriCide OPA Plus Solution, thoroughly rinse the device by immersing it completely in a large volume (approx. 9 liters) of fresh water. Use sterile water unless potable water is acceptable (depends upon the intended use of the device). Keep the instrument totally immersed for a minimum of one minute unless a longer time is specified by the instrument manufacturer.

Manually flush all lumens with large volumes of water (not less than 100 mL) unless otherwise noted by the device manufacturer.

*Repeat the procedure TWO additional times for a total of THREE rinses. THE VOLUME OF WATER USED IN EACH RINSE CYCLE SHOULD BE AT LEAST NINE LITERS.*

**After automated reprocessing (photo not shown):** Select a rinse cycle on the AER that has been validated for use with OPA-based disinfectants. Ensure that a fresh volume of water is used for each rinse. Refer to the instrument manufacturer's labeling for additional rinsing instructions.

### 7) Flush and Dry



Flush all channels with 70% isopropyl or ethyl alcohol, then flush with air. Dry exterior using clean, lint-free cloth. Finally, dry channels following the endoscope manufacturer's instructions.

### 8) Disposal of disinfectant



Discard residual and used MetriCide OPA Plus Solution in accordance with federal, state and local regulations, per hospital policy.



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For a complete list of warnings, precautions, contraindications, adverse events and safety instructions, see the MetriCide OPA Plus Solution package Instructions For Use.

For product or technical information on MetriCide OPA Plus Solution and MetriCide OPA Plus Solution Test Strips, call Metrex at **800-841-1428** or visit [www.metrex.com](http://www.metrex.com).

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