

# Care and Handling of Instruments

9. Do not leave instruments in the following solutions for extended periods as corrosion can result: -

- a) Aluminum, Barium, Calcium, Ferrous or stannous chloride solutions.
- b) Phenol, Lysol or Iodine.
- c) Dakin's Solution or Zephiran.
- d) Any acid, Mercury or potassium solution.

10. Do not sterilize stainless steel instruments with chrome plated instruments if possible, as any break in the surface of the chrome plate will allow an electrolytic action develop between the dissimilar metals, causing pitting and/or a rusty appearance to develop.

11. Preheat instruments in autoclave before allowing steam to enter, if possible, to prevent an excessive amount of condensation forming on the surface of the instruments.

12. Don't open the autoclave too quickly after the sterilization cycles as excessive condensation will develop on the surface of the instruments (crack the door to allow drying before opening fully).

If you follow the above rules and use instrument cleaners and lubricant milk, your instruments should remain rust, spot and stain free.

I hope this will answer any questions you might have on this topic.