September 5, 2010

RE: Lubricants for Olympus Flexible Endoscope Insertion Tubes

Dear Health Care Professional:

Olympus recommends medical grade, water-soluble lubricants (e.g., K/Y jelly, lidocaine jelly) for the insertion tube of their flexible endoscopes. Experience in the U.S. market also suggests that PAM cooking spray is compatible with Olympus flexible endoscopes. However, Olympus makes no claim that PAM is suitable for use during endoscopy procedures. In addition, Olympus cautions customers against the use of petroleum-based (e.g. ointments, Vaseline) and silicone-based lubricants. Although these lubricants may not damage Olympus endoscopes; they may be very difficult to remove during reprocessing.

Please contact Olympus America if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Mary Ann Drosnock
Scientist, Clinical Affairs