



June 9, 2009

Re: **Simethicone**

Dear Health Care Practitioner:

This letter is in response to your recent inquiry regarding the use of simethicone with Olympus endoscopy equipment. Simethicone is a form of silicone found in several over-the-counter anti-gas products. Some GI endoscopy practices use simethicone in an effort to improve visualization during endoscopy. In this case, simethicone is typically diluted in a water container and injected into the patient via the endoscope's water channel or auxiliary water channel, or injected directly through the endoscope's instrument port with a syringe.

Customer reports indicate that the use of high concentrations of simethicone may be difficult to remove from Olympus endoscopy equipment (e.g., endoscope and water containers) despite strict adherence to the Olympus reprocessing instructions. Olympus has not evaluated the efficacy of the Olympus reprocessing procedure for removal of simethicone. Failure to remove simethicone during manual cleaning from Olympus endoscopy equipment may reduce the efficacy of the reprocessing procedure. If using simethicone, Olympus recommends using the lowest concentration possible to achieve the desired effect.

If you have any additional questions, please contact your local Olympus sales representative, the Olympus Technical Assistance Center at 1-800-848-9024 (United States) or 1-800-387-0437 ext 703211 (Canada). Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bradley J. Catalone". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Bradley J. Catalone, Ph.D.  
Director, Research