



December 18, 2017

**Re: Storage of sterilized Olympus flexible endoscopes**

Dear Health Care Professional,

This letter is in response to your recent inquiry on the proper storage of Olympus flexible endoscopes that have been sterilized via a terminal process such as steam sterilization, ethylene oxide sterilization, or low temperature hydrogen peroxide sterilization. The following content is not applicable to flexible endoscopes that have been sterilized via liquid chemical sterilization or those that have been high level disinfected. Please refer to the IFU of your specific model of endoscope for information on compatible sterilization methods.

For customers wishing to maintain sterility after terminal sterilization, sterilized endoscopes may be stored flat and coiled within their sterile packaging. More information on the proper storage environment for your sterilized devices can be obtained from the manufacturer of your sterile packaging.

Should you choose to store your endoscope in its sterile packaging, please continue to follow all instructions within the endoscope Instruction & Reprocessing Manuals including any Warnings & Cautions. For example, users should be sure to not coil the insertion tubes or universal cords with a diameter of less than what is stated as acceptable in the endoscope IFU. Users should also be sure that the insertion tube is set to the most flexible condition (as indicated by the “●” on the flexibility adjustment ring).

The results of sterilization depend on various factors. These factors include how the equipment was packaged and the placing and loading of the package in the sterilization device. Olympus recommends verifying the sterilization process using biological and/or chemical indicators in addition to following the sterilization guidelines issued by national authorities, professional organizations and infection control professionals. To maintain sterility of equipment following sterilization, use sterile packaging and wraps according to national guidelines. Contact the manufacturer of your sterilization system and/or sterile packaging for more information.

**WARRANTY**

Nothing contained in this letter alters, extends, or modifies in any way the authorized Olympus warranty applicable to each device or instrument.

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

Sincerely,

Olympus