Matrix Laparoscopic Needleholder
Cleaning Instructions

Instructions for Reprocessing
The Matrix Laparoscopic Needleholder is supplied non-sterile and should be cleaned and sterilised prior to first use.

The user should also ensure that cleaning and sterilisation are performed in accordance with national standards and requirements.

Preparation for Decontamination
Rinse the needleholder thoroughly using the Luer lock rinsing connector. Open and close the handle several times. Immerse the instrument in an ultrasound bath at a frequency of 35kHz for a minimum of 5 minutes. Manual cleaning may also be performed using soft brushes to remove any gross debris.

Cleaning and Disinfecting
Clean/disinfect the needleholder in an automated washer/disinfector using a programme such as this:

- Rinse - cold water 5 mins
- Wash, 80°C 15 mins
- Rinse Cycle no.1 1 min
- Rinse Cycle no.2 12 mins
- Final Rinse 3 mins
- Rinse in Demineralised Water, 80°C 5 mins
- Drying cycle, 93°C 10 mins

NB: An enzymatic or alkaline-based cleaning agent may be used to clean the instrument.

Drying
If a washer-disinfector without a drying cycle is used, a hot air dryer may be used but the instrument must not be heated to temperatures above 140°C. The cavities of the instrument must be blown out with compressed air to eliminate the possibility of any excess water remaining.

Inspection
Any surgical instrument is subject to normal wear and tear. The needleholder should be checked, prior to sterilisation, for signs of possible defects, and replaced if any faults are found.

Sterilisation
The preferred method of sterilisation is by steam autoclave. Sterility of the needleholder is achieved at 134°C after 3 minutes (pre-vacuum, wrapped). The sterilisation time may be extended to up to 20 minutes without damaging the instrument. Institutional & national sterilisation requirements should be followed. The operating instructions for the sterilisation equipment must also be followed. Open Luer lock sealing caps during the sterilisation process.

WARNING: Do not sterilise in hot-air units.