

# Processing the Ipas MVA Plus<sup>®</sup> Aspirator and Ipas EasyGrip<sup>®</sup> Cannulae

The following options are consistent with best practices regarding reuse of the Ipas MVA Plus Aspirator and Ipas EasyGrip Cannulae. Use care when developing site protocols regarding the processing of instruments. Chemicals or processing methods other than the ones listed here may cause damage.

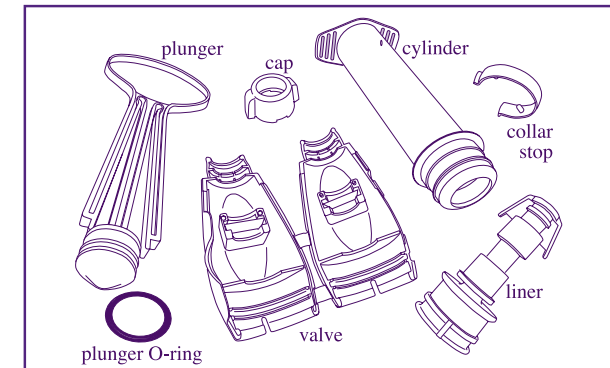
## Basics of Infection Prevention

- Wash hands immediately before and after every patient contact.
- Consider **all** blood and body fluids from **all** patients to be potentially infectious.
- Use personal protective barriers (gloves, gowns, face protection, shoes) when contact with blood or other body fluids is expected.
- Avoid accidental skin punctures; use care when handling needles.
- Use *No-Touch Technique*: The tip of the cannula, or the tip of any other instrument that enters the uterus, should never touch nonsterile surfaces (including the vaginal walls) prior to insertion.

## 1 Point-of-Use Preparation

Immediately following the procedure, all Ipas MVA Plus Aspirators and Ipas EasyGrip Cannulae that will be reused should be kept wet until cleaning. Presoak, rinse or spray device with water or enzymatic spray. Do not use chlorine or saline.

**CAUTION: Aspirators and cannulae are not safe to handle with bare hands until cleaned.**



## 2 Clean and Disassemble Instruments

- Wear gloves and face protection. Clean all instrument surfaces thoroughly in warm water and preferably detergent—not soap.
- Disassemble the aspirator by pulling the cylinder out of the valve. Remove the cap by pressing down the cap-release tabs with one hand and pulling off the cap with the other hand.
- Open the hinged valve by pulling open the clasp. Place the right thumb alongside the right valve button and the left thumb on the valve latch. With the left thumb, pull up and to the left on the valve latch while pushing down and out on the valve body with the right thumb. Remove the valve liner.
- Disengage the collar stop by sliding it sideways under the retaining clip, or remove the collar stop completely.
- Pull the plunger completely out of the cylinder. Displace plunger O-ring by squeezing its sides and rolling it into the groove below.
- Instruments must be completely clean before further processing. If tissue is trapped in the tip of a cannula, flush water through the cannulae repeatedly or use a cotton-tipped probe, soft brush or soft cloth to gently remove material. If unable to remove blood or tissue during cleaning despite repeated attempts, discard the instrument.

**CAUTION: Do not use any pointed or sharp objects to clean the valve parts or to move the O-ring. This could cause damage and prevent the aspirator from maintaining a vacuum.**



## 3 Processing Options

The Ipas MVA aspirator does not directly touch the woman's body. However, when it is used, the cylinder fills with blood. There is the potential risk that some contaminants from a previous woman could be introduced to another woman if the MVA aspirator is not fully processed (soaked, cleaned and sterilized or high-level disinfected) between each use. Therefore, after cleaning, the Ipas MVA Plus must undergo high-level disinfection or sterilization between patients to remove contaminants. Once processed, the aspirator may be kept in a clean container. Aspirators must be completely disassembled for all processing methods. Ipas EasyGrip Cannulae require high-level disinfection or sterilization before re-use and must be high-level disinfected or sterile when inserted into the uterus. Chemical processing agents are hazardous substances. When processing instruments, take necessary precautions, such as using personal protective equipment. Refer to the manufacturer's safety instructions to establish safe use.

For optimal infection prevention, items should be processed using a method that provides the highest level of effectiveness. Use one of the following methods, listed in order of decreasing effectiveness:

- ### Sterilize
- Steam autoclave in linen or paper for 30 minutes at 121°C (250°F) and 106kPa (15lbs./in<sup>2</sup>). DO NOT USE OTHER AUTOCLAVE SETTINGS, SPECIFICALLY DO NOT USE HIGHER SETTINGS ("FLASH AUTOCLAVING"). Lay package flat in the autoclave to avoid bending the cannulae.
  - Soak completely immersed in 2% glutaraldehyde solution (Cidex<sup>®</sup> or equivalent) for the time recommended by the manufacturer—most recommend 10 hours.
  - Soak completely immersed in Sporox<sup>®</sup> II solution for 6 hours.

### High-Level Disinfect

- Boil in water for 20 minutes. Grasping hot cannulae may cause flattening. Let water cool before removing cannulae and handle by the adapter/base.
- Soak completely immersed in a 0.5% chlorine solution for 20 minutes. Change chlorine solution daily or sooner if solution becomes cloudy.
- Soak completely immersed in 2% glutaraldehyde solution (Cidex<sup>®</sup> or equivalent) for the time recommended by the manufacturer—recommendations range from 20–90 minutes.
- Soak completely immersed in Sporox<sup>®</sup> II solution for 30 minutes.

### After Processing MVA Instruments

- If chemical agents were used in processing, Ipas EasyGrip Cannulae are to be thoroughly rinsed with either boiled water (for instruments that were high-level disinfected) or sterile water (if instrument was sterilized) after processing. Ipas MVA Plus Aspirator parts can be thoroughly rinsed in clean potable water (drinking water).

## 4 Store Appropriately or Use Immediately

### Storage

- Aspirators and adapters may be dried, the O-ring lubricated and the device reassembled and stored in a clean, dry area until use. The aspirator does not need to remain high-level disinfected or sterilized at the time of use and can be placed in a clean area or stored according to local standards.
- Cannulae must remain sterile or high-level disinfected until next use. Store cannulae in either sterile or high-level disinfected containers to preserve the level at which they were processed. Handle cannulae by the base ends.
- Instruments processed by wet methods should be reprocessed daily.

### Assembly and Use

- Before use, reassemble, lubricate and check vacuum capability of the aspirator.
- Place the valve liner in position inside the valve by aligning the internal ridges. Close the valve until it snaps in place. Snap the cap onto the end of the valve. Push the cylinder into the base of the valve without twisting.
- Place the plunger O-ring in the groove at the end of the plunger and lubricate it by spreading one drop of lubricant around the O-ring with a fingertip. Silicone or other non-petroleum-based lubricants can be used. Squeeze the plunger arms and insert the plunger fully into the cylinder. Move the plunger in and out to lubricate the cylinder. Insert the tabs of the collar stop into the holes in the cylinder.
- Check vacuum by pushing the buttons down until they lock, and pulling the plunger back until the plunger arms lock. Leave in this position for two to three minutes, then release buttons. A rush of air indicates that the aspirator maintained the vacuum.
- If you do not hear the rush of air, remove the plunger. Check the plunger O-ring and instrument for foreign particles and cracks. If the aspirator still loses vacuum, it should be discarded.

