

Key Endoscope Reprocessing Steps

1

Pre-clean

- Perform at bedside/point of use
- Decrease microbial growth before bioburden dries on surfaces

2

Leak Test

- Detect damage to interior and exterior of endoscope

3

Clean

- Reduce bioburden
- Allow disinfectants to contact endoscope surfaces during high-level disinfection
- Includes brushing and flushing

4

Rinse

- Remove residual debris and detergent
- Purge water from all channels using forced air

5

High-level Disinfect

- Kill all vegetative microorganisms

Sterilize

- Kill all vegetative microorganisms and all spores

6

Rinse

- Remove chemical residue to prevent exposure and potential injury to skin/mucous membranes

7

Dry

- Prevent microbial growth
- Facilitate drying with alcohol and direct compressed air

8

Store

- Prevent damage to endoscope while not in use
- Promote continued air drying