

Ultrasound Manufacturer's Recommendations on Probe Covers:

GE Ultrasound "REQUIRES" the use of a "legally marketed, sterile, pyrogen free probe sheath" product such as SaferSonic, instead of Tegaderm or Optsite. Tegaderm and Optsite are semi-occlusive dressing products that let the skin breath. Thus these dressings are not a complete barrier to infection and cross contamination as is SaferSonic.

In addition the adhesive on Tegaderm and Optsite is aggressive and may cause damage to the crystals in ultrasound probes upon removal or upon cleaning of probe to remove adhesive residues. SaferSonic is designed to eliminate any need to scrub or clean adhesive from probes since it leaves no adhesive residue.

See page 19 of the Operation manual:

http://www.soundeklin.com/assets/Knobology/L9_Quick_Guide.pdf

Probe Cleaning and Disinfection Instructions

Probe Safety

WARNING Ultrasound probes are highly sensitive medical instruments that can easily be damaged by improper handling. Use care when handling and protect from damage when not in use. DO NOT use a damaged or defective probe. Failure to follow these precautions can result in serious injury and equipment damage.

Ultrasound transducers can easily be damaged by improper handling and by contact with certain chemicals. Failure to follow these precautions can result in serious injury and equipment damage.

- Do not immerse the probe into any liquid beyond the level specified for that probe. Never immerse the transducer connector or probe adapters into any liquid.
- Avoid mechanical shock or impact to the transducer and do not apply excessive bending or pulling force to the cable.
- Transducer damage can result from contact with inappropriate coupling or cleaning agents:
- Do not soak or saturate transducers with solutions containing alcohol, bleach, ammonium chloride compounds or hydrogen peroxide
- Avoid contact with solutions or coupling gels containing mineral oil or lanolin
- Avoid temperatures above 60_C.
- Inspect the probe prior to use for damage or degeneration to the housing, strain relief, lens and seal. Do not use a damaged or defective probe.

Biological

Hazard

CAUTION Adequate cleaning and disinfection are necessary to prevent disease transmission. It is the responsibility of the equipment user to verify and maintain the effectiveness of the infection control procedures in use. **Always use sterile, legally marketed probe sheaths for intra-cavitary and intra-operative procedures.**

For neurological intra-operative procedures, **use of a legally marketed, sterile, pyrogen free probe sheath is REQUIRED.** Probes for neuro surgical use must not be sterilized with liquid chemical sterilants because of the possibility of neuro toxic residues remaining on the probe.

A defective probe or excessive force can cause patient injury or probe damage:

- Observe depth markings and do not apply excessive force when inserting or manipulating intercavity probes.
- Inspect probes for sharp edges or rough surfaces that could injure sensitive tissue.

In order for liquid chemical germicides to be effective, all visible residue must be removed during the cleaning process. Thoroughly clean the probe, as described on the following page before attempting disinfection.

CREUTZFELD-JACOB DISEASE

Neurological use on patients with this disease must be avoided. If a probe becomes contaminated, there is no adequate disinfecting means.