



# Maximizing Surgical Instrument Care: Navigating the INSTRUSAFE® 5 Phases of da Vinci® Reprocessing

BY SHIRLEY DELACRUZ, PRODUCT MARKETING MANAGER, STERILE PROCESSING—INNOVIA MEDICAL

**T**his article explains how to use INSTRUSAFE® sterilization reprocessing products to ensure the proper cleaning, transportation and sterilization of delicate da Vinci® instruments by Intuitive Surgical.

**Phase 1: Containing the Soiled Instruments**—When reprocessing da Vinci® instruments, the first phase is to isolate the soiled instruments in the procedure room. Once disassembled, the items must be placed in a receptacle for transportation to the Sterile Processing department (SPD). For this task, we recommend utilizing an extra-long container, such as our INSTRUSAFE® XL Transport Container. Designed to accommodate the unique sizes of instruments, such as the da Vinci® Xi Endowrist arms or Xi Endoscope, the XLTC effectively soaks and protects your tools during transport from the Operating Room (OR) to the SPD.

**Phase 2: Pre-cleaning**—The second phase of da Vinci® reprocessing requires efficient pre-cleaning of the soiled instruments to remove initial

contamination. This phase aims to minimize bioburden and prevent potential damage due to dried surgical residue. To effectively treat your instruments, use the INSTRUSAFE® InSTRU-Zyme® Gel, which is specially formulated to act hard on proteins and organic matter. Spray the solution thoroughly on the soiled instruments, then cover with the lid before transport.

**Phase 3: Decontamination and Prep & Pack**—The next step is to pack instruments in a basket or tray prior to sterilization. INSTRUSAFE® Sterilization Trays are specifically designed to hold and protect da Vinci® instrumentation. Our trays are made of robust metals and feature a protective lid and built-in corner protectors for 360° of protection. The built-in, medical-grade silicone holders help keep your most delicate and expensive instrumentation secure and in place during reprocessing. Our silicone holders also feature inner hollow channels with pathways for optimal sterilant penetration. INSTRUSAFE® Sterilization Trays simplify prepping and packing for your team, allowing

them to most efficiently prepare for the next crucial step of reprocessing: wrapping or containerizing.

**Phase 4: Sterilization packaging**—Once an instrument set has been prepped and packed, it must either be blue wrapped or placed in a rigid filtered container. Similar to the XL Transport Container, INSTRUSAFE® also offers an XL Rigid Container, specifically designed to accommodate longer da Vinci instruments. Place the tray inside, inspect and insert filters, and shut the lid for a secure seal. After packaging your trays in the XL Rigid Container, sterilize them in accordance with the instrument manufacturer's instructions for use (IFU).

**Phase 5: Tracking**—The fifth and final step of reprocessing da Vinci® instruments is tracking for traceability and IFU compliance. Although the robot tracks the number of uses, Intuitive Surgical's IFU now states that the reprocessing cycles of each Endowrist instrument must also be counted. The CycleTrak robotic module tracks and records reprocessing cycles for da Vinci® Xi, Si, and Sp instruments and accessories. Scan the



barcode to tally reprocessing cycles for each device and receive an expiration alert when a tool has completed its final reprocessing cycle.

Utilizing the INSTRUSAFE® 5 Phases of da Vinci® Reprocessing system aids in compliance with demanding industry and regulatory standards for instrument sterilization, effectively providing efficiency and peace of mind to hard-working healthcare providers. **P**

SAVE THE DATE

HSPA  
2024



LAS VEGAS

APRIL 20-23, 2024