

Neo Pedicle Screw System™ and Neo Cage System™ Processing (cleaning, disinfection, and sterilization) of non-sterile Instruments and Instrument Sets



PURPOSE

The Neo Pedicle Screw System™ is intended to help provide immobilization, correction and stabilization of spinal segments as an adjunct to fusion of the thoracic, lumbar, and/or sacral spine. The Neo Cage System™ is a titanium alloy Ti6Al4V interbody fusion device intended for stabilization use and to promote bone fusion during the normal healing process following surgical correction of disorders of the spine.

Both systems are implanted using instruments that are mainly provided single use sterile. This instructions leaflet provides information for the proper processing of non-sterile single instruments and trays.

DESCRIPTION

The Neo Pedicle Screw System™ and the Neo Cage System™ are mainly used with single use sterile instruments which are described in the system instructions for use and the procedure for use is described in the surgical technique. Some instruments are provided by Neo Medical as non-sterile and some of these are intended to be re-used after appropriate cleaning, disinfection and sterilization procedure. Product labeling clearly indicates which products are non sterile and single use and which products are non sterile reusable via the following symbols.

Non-Sterile / Single use	
Non-Sterile / Reusable	

Neo Medical also provides Instrument Sets (e.g. Deformity Set) which are a fixed configuration of reusable instruments included in a tray. A set card showing the list of instruments is provided with the instrument box. The users must check the completeness of instruments according to the list reported in the set card.

NOTA BENE: Instrument Sets may contain instruments from other manufacturers. In alignment with other manufacturers and validated by testing, the cleaning, disinfection and sterilization parameters are applicable as stated in this IFU for all single instruments and instrument sets.

The instruments must not be modified/altered; the instruments must not be used for applications not in compliance with their intended use.

Please follow these instructions for the preparation of the instruments before surgery and, only for reusable instruments, for their reprocessing after surgery. Please check the specific instructions for Single Instruments or Instrument Sets provided in each section.

NOTA BENE: Neo Medical instruments are manual instruments that are not intended for connection with active medical devices such as power tools. Use provided handles to connect with instruments and operate them.

Neo Medical's products are sold with a limited warranty to the original purchaser against defects in workmanship and materials. Any other express or implied warranties, including warranties of merchantability or fitness, are hereby disclaimed.

FUNDAMENTAL POINTS

All instruments labelled as non-sterile are to be cleaned, disinfected, and sterilized prior to each application; this is required as well for the first use after delivery of the unsterile instruments (cleaning and disinfection after removal of the protective packaging, sterilization after packaging and right before use). An effective cleaning and disinfection is an indispensable requirement for an effective sterilization of the instruments.

The sterility of the instruments falls under the responsibility of the natural or legal person performing sterilization. Please ensure that only sufficiently device and product specifically validated procedures will be used for cleaning, disinfection, and sterilization, that the used devices (WD, sterilizer) will be maintained and checked regularly, as well as that the validated parameters will be applied for each cycle.

Additionally, please pay attention to the legal provisions valid for your Country as well as to the hygienic instructions of the hospital. This applies particularly to the different guidelines regarding the inactivation of prions (not relevant for USA), which can require the application of cleaning detergents with proven prion efficiency as well as a sterilization with more intensive parameters.

Caution: Non-sterile single instruments are provided in a protective packaging designed for maintaining the integrity and cleanliness of the product. However, in no case the product shall be sterilized within this packaging, but needs to be removed from the package and be treated as follows.

NOTA BENE: The transportation and distribution of instruments (new or used) to the hospitals and to the users does not include the control and maintenance of sterilization or decontamination conditions, therefore the users **MUST** perform again the entire reprocessing procedure.

Personal Protective Equipment (i.e. gown, mask, goggles or face shields, gloves latex free and shoe covers) shall be worn when handling or working with contaminated or potentially contaminated materials, devices and equipment. It is the hospital's responsibility to ensure the staff safety.

Pay attention during handling of instruments sharpened or intended to perform a cut.

Pay attention during handling and transportation of contaminated instruments to the cleaning and disinfection areas. The contaminated instruments shall be transported to the cleaning and disinfection areas using appropriate procedures in order to avoid staff infection and hospital contamination. It is the hospital's responsibility to ensure the staff safety.

CLEANING AND DISINFECTION

Basics

If possible, an automated procedure (WD (Washer-Disinfector)) should be used for cleaning and disinfection of the instruments or trays. A manual procedure – even in case of application of an ultrasonic bath – should only be used if an automated procedure is not available; in this case, the significantly lower efficiency and reproducibility of a manual procedure has to be considered¹.

The pre-treatment step is to be performed in both cases.

¹ In case of application of a manual cleaning and disinfection procedure a product and procedure specific development and validation of the specific manual procedure under sole responsibility of the user is required.

Pre-treatment

Please remove coarse impurities of the instruments and trays directly after application (within a maximum of 2 h).

Procedure:

1. Rinse the instruments or trays at least 1 min under running water (temperature < 35 °C/95 °F).
2. Soak the instruments or trays for the given soaking time the pre-cleaning solution², e.g. 0.5-2% neodisher® Mediclean forte for 10-30 min (with activated ultrasound) so that the instruments or trays are completely covered. Pay attention that there is no contact between the instruments or trays.
3. Then, remove the instruments or trays of the pre-cleaning solution and post-rinse them at least three times intensively (at least 1 min) with water (temperature <35°C/95 °F).

Pay attention to the following points during the selection of the cleaning detergent²:

- fundamental suitability for the cleaning of instruments or trays made of metallic or plastic material
- suitability of the cleaning detergent for ultrasonic cleaning (no foam development)
- compatibility of the cleaning detergent with the instruments or trays (see chapter „material resistance,“)

Pay attention to the instructions of the detergent manufacturer regarding concentration, temperature and soaking time as well as post-rinsing. Please use only freshly prepared solutions as well as only sterile or low contaminated water (max. 10 germs/ml) as well as low endotoxin contaminated water (max. 0.25 endotoxin units/ml), for example purified/highly purified water, and a soft, clean, and lint-free cloth and/or filtered air for drying, respectively.

² In case of application of a cleaning and disinfection detergent for this (e.g. in consequence of personnel's safety) please consider, that this should be aldehyde-free (otherwise fixation of blood impurities), possess a fundamentally approved efficiency (for example VAH/DGHM or FDA/EPA approval/clearance/registration or CE marking), be suitable for the disinfection of instruments or trays made of metallic or plastic material, and be compatible with the instruments or trays (see chapter „material resistance,“).

Please consider, that a disinfectant used in the pre-treatment step serves only the personnel's safety, but cannot replace the disinfection step later to be performed after cleaning.

Automated cleaning/disinfection (WD (Washer-Disinfector))

NOTA BENE: Never perform cleaning/disinfection with the instrument still inside the tray. These shall always be removed and placed in the Washer-Disinfector and positioned to ensure the best penetration of water jets and removal of soil.

Pay attention to the following points during the selection of the WD:

- WD according to EN ISO/ANSI AAMI ST15883 and with fundamentally approved efficiency (for example CE marking according to EN ISO 15883 or DGHM or FDA approval/clearance/registration)
- if possible select an approved program for thermal disinfection (A_0 value ≥ 3000 or – in case of older devices – at least 5 min at 90 °C/194 °F; in case of chemical disinfection danger of remnants of the disinfectant on the instruments)
- fundamental suitability of the program for instruments and/or trays
- program with a sufficient number of rinsing steps (at least three degrading steps after cleaning (respectively neutralization, if applied) or conductance based rinsing control recommended in order to prevent effectively remnants of the detergents)

- post-rinsing only with sterile or low contaminated water (max. 10 germs/ml, max. 0.25 endotoxin units/ml), for example purified/highly purified water
- only use of filtered air (oil-free, low contamination with microorganisms and particles) for drying
- regularly maintenance and check/calibration of the WD

Pay attention to following points during selection of the cleaning detergent:

- fundamental suitability for the cleaning of instruments and trays made of metallic or plastic material
- additional application – in case of non-application of a thermal disinfection – of a suitable disinfectant with approved efficiency (for example VAH/DGHM or FDA/EPA approval/clearance/registration or CE marking) compatible to the used cleaning detergent
- compatibility of the used detergents with the instruments and trays (see chapter „material resistance,“)

Pay attention to the instructions of the detergent manufacturers regarding concentration, temperature and soaking time as well as post-rinsing.

- Procedure:
1. Transfer the instruments or trays in the WD (pay attention, that the instruments or trays are located with the big opening downwards and that instruments and/or trays have no contact).
 2. Start the program , e.g.:
 - pre-rinse 1 min with cold water <40°C
 - wash at 55°C with 0.5% neodisher® Mediclean forte for 10 min
 - rinse for 1 min with cold water <40°C
 - rinse for 2 min with deionized water <40°C
 - thermal disinfection for 5 min at >90°C with deionized water
 - drying for 30 min at 100°C
 3. Remove the instruments or trays of the WD after end of the program.
 4. Check and pack the instruments immediately after the removal (see chapters „check,“, „maintenance,“, and “packaging,“, if necessary after additional post-drying at a clean place).

The fundamental suitability of the instruments for an effective automated cleaning and disinfection was demonstrated by an independent, governmentally accredited and recognized (§ 15 (5) MPG) test laboratory by application of an ultrasonic bath of the SONOREX series with 35 kHz (BANDELIN electronic, Berlin) for pre-cleaning, the WD PG 8535, Miele & Cie. GmbH & Co., Gütersloh (thermal disinfection) and the pre-cleaning and cleaning detergent neodisher® Mediclean forte (Dr. Weigert GmbH & Co. KG, Hamburg) considering to the specified procedure.

Check

Check all instruments and trays after cleaning or cleaning/disinfection, respectively, on corrosion, damaged surfaces, still readable marking. And impurities. Do not further use damaged instruments (for limitation of the numbers of re-use cycles see chapter „reusability,“). Still dirty instruments are to be cleaned and disinfected again.

Maintenance

Instrument oils or grease must not be applied.

Packaging of single instruments for sterilization

Sterilization must be performed immediately before use of the instrument.

Please insert the cleaned and disinfected instruments in a standard sterilization tray and pack them in sterilization containers, which fulfill the following requirements (material/process):

- EN ISO/ANSI AAMI ISO 11607 (for USA: FDA clearance)
- suitable for steam sterilization (temperature resistance up to at least 142 °C (288 °F), sufficient steam permeability)
- sufficient protection of the instruments as well as of the sterilization packaging against mechanical damage
- regular maintenance according to the instructions of the manufacturer (sterilization container)

A maximum weight of 8 kg per content of the sterilization tray must not be exceeded.

Packaging of instrument sets for sterilization

Sterilization must be performed immediately before use of the instrument.

After inspection, the instruments must be placed in the proper slots of their dedicated trays. The instruments must be placed into their dedicated trays according to the indications of the instrument set card, in order to avoid contact with each other and ensure steam penetration to all instrument surfaces during the sterilization.

Instruments shall not be stacked or placed in close contact.

For the sterilization process, trays and cases with lids must be wrapped according to the following alternatives according to ISO 11607-1 :

- standard wraps for medical applications, applying the method of double wrapping AAMI or equivalent method;
- approved sterilization container with gasket lid for sterilization.

Follow the sterilization containers' manufacturer's instructions for inserting and replacing sterilization filters within sterilization containers.

The user must ensure that the instrument case is not tipped or the contents shifted once the devices are arranged in the case. The total weight of a wrapped instrument tray or box must not exceed 11.4 Kg (according to AAMI ST77).

NOTE. Use only cleared sterilization wrap (for U.S. use only, recommend the use of FDA cleared wrap) or other cleared accessory that has been validated to allow sterilant penetration as well as sterility maintenance.

Sterilization

Please use for sterilization only the listed sterilization procedures; other sterilization procedures must not be applied. Sterilization must be performed immediately before use of the instrument.

Steam sterilization

- fractionated vacuum/dynamic air removal procedure^{3,4} (with sufficient product drying⁵)
- steam sterilizer according to EN 13060/EN 285 or ANSI AAMI ST79 (for USA: FDA clearance)
- validated according to EN ISO 17665 (valid IQ/OQ (commissioning) and product specific performance qualification (PQ))
- maximum sterilization temperature 137°C (278,6 °; plus tolerance according to EN ISO 17665)
- sterilization time (exposure time at the sterilization temperature):

Area	fractionated vacuum/dynamic air removal	gravity displacement
USA	4 min at 132 °C (270 °F), drying time at least 20 min ⁵	not recommended
Germany	5 min ⁶ at 134 °C (273 °F), drying time at least 20 min ⁵	not recommended
other countries	at least 4 min ⁶ at 132 °C (270 °F) / 134 °C (273 °F), drying time at least 20 min ⁵	not recommended

³ at least three vacuum steps

⁴ The less effective gravity displacement procedure must not be used in case of availability of the fractionated vacuum procedure, requires significantly longer sterilization times as well as a sterilizer, procedure, parameter, and product specific process development and validation under sole responsibility of the user.

⁵ The effectively required drying time depends directly on parameters in sole responsibility of the user (load configuration and density, sterilizer conditions, ...) and by this is to be determined by the user. Nevertheless, drying times less than 20 min must not be applied.

⁶ respectively 18 min (inactivation of prions, not relevant for USA)

The fundamental suitability of the instruments for an effective steam sterilization was demonstrated by an independent, governmentally accredited and recognized (§ 15 (5) MPG) test laboratory by application of the steam sterilizer Tuttnauer EHS 3870/ Lautenschläger ZentraCert and the fractionated vacuum/dynamic air removal procedure. For this, typical conditions in clinic as well as the specified procedure were considered.

The flash/immediate use sterilization procedure must not be used.

Do not use dry heat sterilization, radiation sterilization, formaldehyde and ethylene oxide sterilization, as well as plasma sterilization.

Storage

Please store the instruments after sterilization in the sterilization packaging in a dry and dust-free place, far from sinks or places where they may get wet or damaged as this will compromise sterilization.

Prior to use ensure that the integrity of the sterile packaging of instruments has not been compromised, in which case proceed with a new sterilization cycle prior to use.

Sterilization date must be reported on the package to make sure that sterilization occurred right before use.

Material resistance

Please take care that the listed substances are not ingredients of the cleaning or disinfection detergent:

- organic, mineral, and oxidizing acids (minimum admitted pH-value 5.5)
- strong lyes (maximum admitted pH-value 11, neutral/enzymatic, weak alkaline, or alkaline cleaner recommended)
- organic solvents (for example: acetone, ether, alcohol, benzene)
- oxidizing agents (for example: peroxide)
- halogens (chlorine, iodine, bromine)
- aromatic, halogenated hydrocarbons

Please consider during selection of the detergents in addition, that corrosion inhibitors, neutralizing agents, and/or rinse aids may cause potential critical remnants on the instruments.

Acid neutralizing agents or rinse aids must not be applied.

Please do not clean any instruments or trays by use of metal brushes or steel wool.

Please do not expose any instruments or trays to temperatures higher than 142 °C (288 °F)!

Reusability

Repeated processing cycles that include ultrasonic, mechanical washing and sterilization have minimal effects on Neo Medical reusable surgical instruments.

End of life of a reusable surgical instrument is normally determined by wear and damage due to use. Evidence of damage and wear on a device may include but is not limited to corrosion (i.e. rust, pitting), discoloration, excessive scratches, flaking, wear

and cracks. Improperly functioning devices, devices with unrecognizable markings, missing or removed (buffed off) part numbers, damaged and excessively worn devices should not be used and must be absolutely replaced by a new one. The user is responsible for each further use as well as for the use of damaged and dirty instruments (no liability in case of disregard).

Hospital responsibilities for Neo Medical loaner instruments

Instruments that no longer perform properly because of long use, mishandling, or improper care shall be returned to Neo Medical who will provide their maintenance or disposal.

Loaner sets shall undergo all steps of decontamination, cleaning, disinfection, inspection, and terminal sterilization before being returned to Neo Medical.

Documentation of decontamination and sterilization shall be provided with instruments being returned to Neo Medical.

Instruments are to be returned in their boxes and the boxes are to be properly packaged inside a cardboard box suitable for preventing possible damage during transport.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

It remains the responsibility of the processor to ensure that the processing is actually performed, using equipment, materials and personnel in the Central Sterile Supply Department (CSSD), and achieves the desired result. This requires verification/validation and routine monitoring of the process. Likewise, any deviation by the processor from the recommendations provided should be properly evaluated for effectiveness and potential adverse consequences.

All users shall be qualified personnel with documented expertise, competency and training. Users shall be trained on hospital policies and procedures along with current applicable guidelines and standards.

Users shall don appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) when processing devices in accordance with the Department of Environmental and Occupational Health and Safety's (OSHA) bloodborne pathogen guidelines.

PRODUCT COMPLAINTS







Any health care professional (e.g., customer or user of this system of products) who has any complaints or who has experienced any dissatisfaction in the product quality, identity, durability, reliability, safety, effectiveness and/or performance, should notify the official distributor of NEO MEDICAL S.A. and, where applicable, the local competent authority. Further, if any of the implanted spinal system component(s) ever "malfunctions" (i.e., does not meet any of its performance specifications or otherwise does not perform as intended), or is suspected of doing so, the distributor should be notified immediately. If any NEO MEDICAL S.A. product ever "malfunctions" and may have caused or contributed to the death or serious injury of a patient, the distributor should be notified immediately by telephone, FAX, or written correspondence. When filing a complaint, please provide the component(s) name and number, lot number(s), your name and address, the nature of the complaint, and notification of whether a written report from the distributor is requested.








Before return of products which were used in hospital environment, perform a complete processing according to these instructions. Confirmation of processing including parameters used shall be provided in the delivery note.

FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information refer also to the Neo Pedicle Screw System™ Instruction for Use. Recommended directions for use of this system (surgical operative techniques) are available at no charge upon request. If further information is needed or required, please contact NEO MEDICAL S.A.

EXPLANATION OF SYMBOLS

	The device complies with Medical Device Regulation 2017/745		Manufacturer
	European Authorized Representative		Importer in the EU
	Catalogue number		Batch Code

	Consult the Instructions for use		Caution / Warning
	Non-sterile		Do not re-use
	Medical Device		Unique Device Identification
	Date of manufacture		



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