

Endoscope Storage

Flexible endoscopes and endoscope accessories should be stored in manner that minimizes contamination and protects the device or item from damage.

The 2016 AORN Guidelines for PeriOperative Practices are recommended for your review and include specific guidance including, but not limited to:

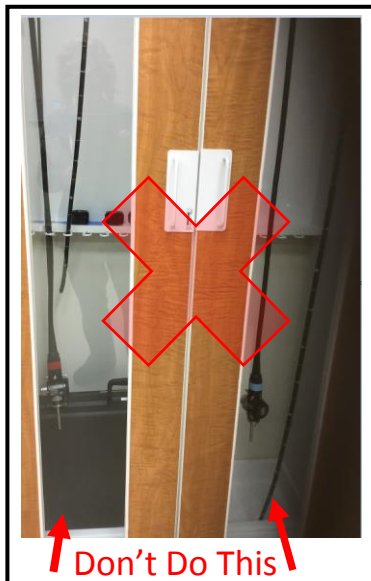
- Cabinetry situated in a secure, clean workroom /separate clean area
- Storage in a cabinet that facilitates drying
- Cabinetry of sufficient height to hang vertically, without coiling and without touching the bottom of the cabinet.

Special storage cupboards or cabinets designed for endoscopes are commercially available that assist the drying process by means of special ventilation methods, using filtered air or container systems. Regardless of whether a special cabinet is used, the temperature and humidity in the area where the scopes are stored should be monitored.

Please make sure to follow this guidance:

- Endoscopes should not touch each other, cabinet walls, or bottom
- Ensure sufficient space is available; do not crowd the endoscopes
- Do not place anything on cabinet walls (ie, paper), which impedes cleaning

Tips on endoscope storage – see photos below:



References:

- © 2015 Association for the Advancement of Medical Instrumentation ■ AAMI ST91:2015
- © AORN Guidelines for Perioperative Practice, 2016 Edition