LARYNGEAL MASK AIRWAY (LMA) - Anaesthetics





Cleaning:

- Before cleaning the PROSEAL LMA the RED PLUG on the blue balloon valve must be closed so that water or cleaning solution does not enter the valve line.
- Cuff to be slightly inflated during cleaning.
- Manual clean or clean in automated washer disinfector (as per manufacturer's instructions).

Manual Cleaning

• Prepare detergent and warm water solution (as per manufacturer's instructions).



• Wash over the LMA to remove lubricant and any secretions, with a lint free cloth and gloved hands.







- Flush channel with warm water.
- Use appropriate LMA cleaning brush, insert brush between middle aperture bars and proceed to clean the airway channel.







 Gently clean the side aperture bars with the cleaning brush tip. Be careful not to break or damage the aperture bars. Ensure LMA is completely cleaned and that all lubricant and secretions are removed.



• The Proseal LMA has no aperture bars to clean, instead it has 2 channels (1 airway and 1 drainage tube/suction). Gently pass the brush through both channels until clean. Flush channels with warm water.





- Rinse mask well with warm water.
- Use air gun to blow any moisture from channel/s following decontamination, and ensure there is no water in the valve tip.



INSPECTION OF THE LMA PRIOR TO STERILISATION





Look through the air channel and/or suction channel to ensure no debris are present and that the channel is patent.

Flex the tube to no more than 180°. If the tube kinks, the LMA is to be discarded.



• Check to see that there is no damage from inadequate bite block protection following use. Signs of damaged wire in the reinforced LMA may be noted if bite block protection has been inadequate.





• Inspect the adhesive seals on the LMA, and ensure that all joins are present.



• Check the aperture bars to ensure that they are not damaged or broken. The aperture bars prevent the epiglottis falling into the airway tube.





- Check that the tip is rigid when deflated by flexing and the letting go the tip should immediately go back to its normal position.
- Check to see that there is no softening of mask which will produce an increase in size and misshaping of the cuff resulting in herniations.

Causes – silicone based lubricants, chemicals not recommended for cleaning.





• Non recommended cleaning solutions can cause severe damage. Check the connector for crazing.



• Check the valve and balloon for any signs of herniation.

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PRIOR TO STERILISATION

- Deflate cuff.
- Following deflation the cuff should be completely flat. Some anaesthetic technicians prefer approx. 5ml of air to be placed back into the cuff to allow the cuff edges not stick together and crack when sterilised.





• The RED PLUG on the valve of the PROSEAL LMA should be left open for sterilisation. If it is left closed it will cause the cuff to rupture.



- Loosely wrap the valve tube around the airway for packaging.
- Suggested use by the manufacturer is 40 uses, document as per manufacturer's instructions. (Reusable)
- LMA's are also manufactured as a disposable single use item.

