

Standard Laryngoscope Blades and Handles

Standard Laryngoscope Blades

Care and Maintenance

Welch Allyn laryngoscope blades are crafted from enduring stainless steel. To insure maximum life and performance, the following instructions should be strictly adhered to.

There are two styles of standard Welch Allyn laryngoscope blades - Conventional and Convertible.

In the Conventional blades, the lamp socket and wires are an integral part of the blade. In the Convertible style, the light carrier (which contains the lamp and wires) can be removed from the blade for cleaning and replacement. To determine which blade style you are referencing, please refer to Figure 1.

Cleaning Procedure

All Welch Allyn blades are compatible with enzymatic cleaners. Refer to manufacturer's instructions for recommended exposure times and solution strengths.

Conventional Blades (pre 1990)

Leave lamp in the blade. Immediately after use, blade should be rinsed in clean tap water to remove any residue. External surfaces should then be gently scrubbed in soapy water, with a soft brush, to provide a thorough cleaning.

After cleaning, rinse blades thoroughly, and dry prior to disinfection/sterilization.



WARNING ultrasonic cleaning is not recommended.

Convertible Blades (post 1990)

Prior to cleaning, the light carrier should be removed from the blade following the procedure outlined in the Light Carrier Replacement section. The blade and light carrier should then be cleaned following the procedure outlined under Conventional Blades. This process will result in removing any debris trapped between the carrier and the blade, facilitating the disinfection/sterilization process. Reassemble.

Disinfection/Sterilization (Minimum High Level Disinfection Required)

Sterrad® System: Welch Allyn laryngoscope blades are compatible with Sterrad hydrogen peroxide plasma system.

Cold Soak Solutions: Welch Allyn laryngoscope blades are compatible with 14 day (2.4 - 2.6%) glutaraldehyde solutions.

WARNING: Do not use bleach (sodium hypochlorite), betadine, or peroxide solutions. Doing so may damage the instrument.

Contact Welch Allyn regarding the use of other cold soak solutions intended for disinfection or sterilization. For recommended exposure times and solution concentrations, refer to solution manufacturer's instructions.

Prior to immersion, verify that the lamp is secure. Immersion with lamp removed or improperly secured will result in damage to the electrical contacts.

Steam Autoclave is appropriate.

Note Autoclaving with lamp removed will result in damage to the electrical circuit. Verify lamp is secure.

Do not exceed temperature of 280°F (138°C) and pressure of 28 p.s.i. Always wrap laryngoscopes.



WARNING "flash" autoclaving and hot air sterilization should be avoided. These processes will damage the instrument.

Ethylene Oxide is appropriate with gas concentrations of 10% to 100%.

Note Do not exceed temperature of 131°F (55°C) and pressure of 8 p.s.i. Exposure time 2-4 hours. Aerate 12-16 hours at 120°F (49°C) following processing.

Standard Laryngoscope Handle

Disinfection/Sterilization

New Welch Allyn standard battery handles are compatible with steam autoclave sterilization, however, DO NOT flash autoclave. (Please follow the same parameters as outlined under laryngoscope disinfection/sterilization above.) These handles can be identified by the term AUTOCLAVE located on one side of the hook on neck. Older Welch Allyn handles ARE NOT autoclavable and will not have this marking. Prior to autoclaving, unscrew the bottom cap and remove the batteries. The main handle and cap will also withstand exposure to ethylene oxide. (figure 2)

Welch Allyn standard battery handles are not designed for cold soak disinfection. Exposure to these environments will severely damage the electrical components of the instrument and since fluid may be retained within the instrument there is a possibility of short circuiting the instrument or drainage onto the patient. The battery handle can be cleaned by wiping down with a cloth or towel dampened with a solution of 70% isopropyl alcohol or a 14 day glutaraldehyde solution.

Battery Replacement

Unscrew bottom cap of handle and remove batteries. Stubby handle: pull on tab to remove battery pack. Remove batteries by pulling one end away from pack.

Alkaline batteries have been supplied with your handle for maximum performance (nickel/cadmium with rechargeable handle) and are recommended as replacements. Ordinary carbon-zinc batteries may also be used.

Replace with appropriate size battery and replace bottom cap. Stubby handle: insert battery pack with tab side down.

Instructions for Recycling Nickel-Cadmium Batteries

Welch Allyn now employs the services of an agency which can disassemble and recycle all components of nickel-cadmium batteries so that nothing gets land-filled or incinerated. Should you wish to dispose of your expended Welch Allyn rechargeable battery via recycling (in the US and Canada only), please send to:

Welch Allyn
RECYCLE BATTERY
4341 State Street Road
Skaneateles Falls, NY 13153-0220

Welch Allyn Canada
RECYCLE BATTERY
160 Matheson Blvd. E
Mississauga, Ontario CANADA L4Z 1V4

For locations outside the U.S. and Canada consult your local recycling authority for correct disposal of batteries.

Light Carrier Replacement

Convertible Blades only

1. Remove locking screw by rotating counterclockwise with a standard screwdriver or coin.
2. Pull light carrier away from base of laryngoscope and slide distal end of carrier out of blade.
3. Position new carrier and replace locking screw.
4. Rotate locking screw clockwise until secure.

Lamp Replacement

Conventional and Convertible Blades - For correct illumination alignment and assurance of watertight seal during immersion/autoclave, use only Welch Allyn #04700 and #04800 replacement lamps.

Prior to removal, allow lamp time to cool. To remove, rotate lamp counterclockwise until free. Replace. Figure 3

Verify lamp is sufficiently tightened before use.



Caution Be sure lamp's glass envelope is clean and free of any fingerprints after assembly. If necessary, the glass may be cleaned with a soft cloth or cotton ball moistened in alcohol.

Note With some convertible blades the light carrier must be removed to replace lamp.



WARNING When lamp is in “On” position, continuous contact with the bulb may cause burn to patient.

Test Procedure

Laryngoscope blades and handles should always be tested after cleaning/disinfection/sterilization and prior to use.

To check, connect the laryngoscope blade to the handle and pull open to the “on” position. If the unit fails to light or flickers, check the lamp/batteries.

Be sure adequate supplies of spare lamps, batteries, and replacement parts are readily available.

If problem still persists, contact Welch Allyn Customer Service.

Note Power outputs from rechargeable batteries may fall rapidly during use, resulting in rapid failure of illumination. Be sure a spare handle is readily available.



WARNING Only trained personnel shall use a laryngoscope for intubation.

Use of instrument in presence of intense magnetic fields should present no problems.

Conforming to ASTM F 965 and ISO-7376-1

EN60601-1

Figure 1

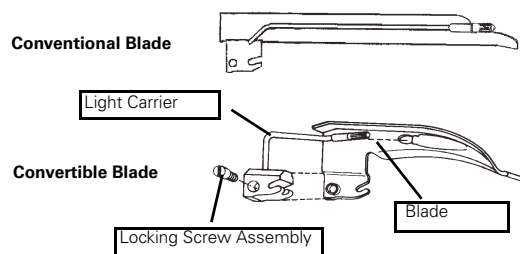


Figure 2

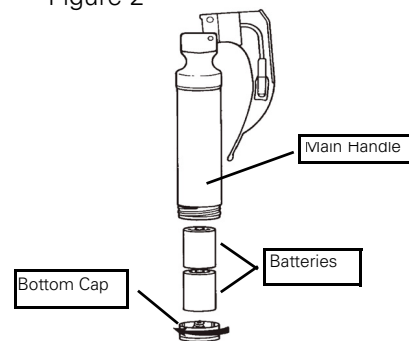
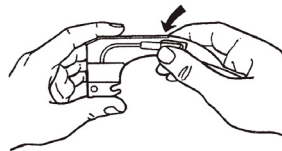


Figure 3



The CE mark on this product indicates it has been tested to and conforms with the provisions noted within the 93/42/EEC Medical Device Directive.”



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