

**SUBJECT:** Valvesafe™ Endoscope Valve Basket

**DEPARTMENT:** Endoscopy/Central Sterile

**APPROVED BY:**

**EFFECTIVE:** 9/2015

**REVISED:** 9/2015

**PURPOSE:** Single-use valve cage for the safe storage of endoscope valves and air/water channel cleaning adapter to ensure that they remain as part of a unique set with the parent endoscope, as recommended by a number of national and international guidelines.

**POLICY:** The Valvesafe is a single-use valve cage for the storage of endoscope valves and air/water channel cleaning adapter while attached to an endoscope to ensure that they remain as part of a unique set with the parent endoscope for traceability.

**RATIONALE:**

New guidelines released in AAMI ST91 focus on safety and traceability of endoscopes parts and valves. The parent endoscope and its associated valves and air/water channel cleaning adapter should remain together as a unique set. This would aid in the investigation of an infection control outbreak by allowing for all parts used in a suspected case to be identified easily and pulled out of use.

10.1 General Considerations

All removable parts (e.g. valves and caps) should be detached from the endoscope. To keep the parts together with the endoscopes, a small bag or similar device can be used to attach the parts to the scope.

10.2 Storage of high-level disinfected endoscopes

Detachable parts that are to be reused (e.g. air/water and suction valves/pistons) should be processed together and stored with the specific endoscope as a unique set in order to allow traceability.<sup>1</sup>

Other references supporting storage of valves with the parent endoscope include:

- Canadian Standards Association: Valves and associated parts should be kept together throughout reprocessing as a unique set.<sup>2</sup>

-The Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) is the UK government agency which is responsible for ensuring that medicines and medical devices work, and are acceptably safe.

- Released Medical Device Alert on the 9th May 2012<sup>3</sup>
- Use of inappropriate accessory holders within an AER may lead to AER, endoscope and solution contamination by retained soil and corroded material
  - Fine mesh of some holders may trap contaminants
  - Inappropriate holders can deteriorate
  - Use only CE marked medical devices
  - The device must be specifically designed for decontamination
  - Must be compatible with AER and solutions

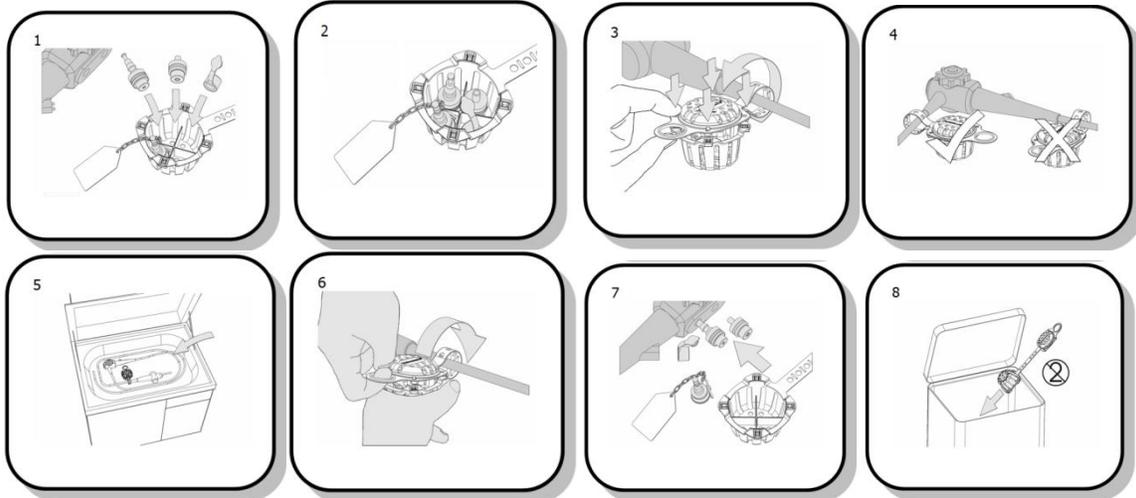
In response to this need, Valvesafe (VS-002 BLU), a single-use endoscope valve cage has been developed to provide a secure means of attaching endoscope parts to the parent endoscopes. Its wide opened design means that disinfecting liquid can easily penetrate through the device and onto the valves. The single-use nature of this ensures that cross-contamination is minimized. "Smart-Click" technology ensures cage is 'broken' and therefore prevents re-use.

Valvesafe locks onto the parent endoscope without concealing any part. It takes multiple valves, including air/water channel cleaning adapter. It is constructed of plastic to prevent rust and prevent any microbiological growth. With its large openings, it allows solutions to readily pass through. Valvesafe is designed to take up to 4 valves:

- Air/water valve
- Suction valve
- Air/water cleaning adaptor (e.g. Olympus MAJ-948)
- Biopsy cap (if not breached)

### **Instructions for use:**

1. Remove the valves from the endoscope.
2. Manually clean as recommended by the valve manufacturer.
3. Place the valves into the open Valvesafe. The chain of the A/W channel cleaning adapter should pass through a recess.
4. Close the top of the Valvesafe around the endoscope's umbilical cord, ensuring the four pins are fully located into the opposite housings.
5. Ensure that the Valvesafe is closed around the umbilical cord and not in the scope insertion tube.
6. Reprocess the endoscope, and place in drying cabinet if necessary.
7. Pull the "ring pull" to open the Valvesafe and to release the valves.
8. Place the valves back with the endoscope.
9. Safely discard the Valvesafe. Do not reuse.



**Note:** If a valve or cleaning adapter becomes worn, broken or is taken out of service, it is recommended to note the change in the log or written records of the endoscope. Then, replace with a new valve or cleaning adapter as its own new unique set. This new valve/adapter will then stay with the endoscope set permanently.

If disposable valves are used, please note that these will not then be able to be kept as a traceable unit for infection control investigations. Since there is no disposable version of the air/water channel cleaning adapter available, Valvesafe should be used to ensure that the air/water channel cleaning adapter is kept with the associated endoscope as a unique unit.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Competency Statement: Complies** with policy and procedure for testing scopes for gram negative organisms.

**Key**

**1** = Performs independently and consistently. Ask for assistance in new situations.

**2** = Performs with minimal guidance and direction. Asks for assistance when necessary.

**3** = Performs with maximal guidance and direction. Preceptor dependent. Consistently needs assistance.

**Comments:**

**Competency Achieved:** \_\_\_\_\_ **(Date)**

**Evaluator:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Learner:** \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Critical Behavior</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>
Review Hospital Policy on cleaning of endoscopes and valves			
Describes the purpose of cleaning and decontamination of the endoscope and valves			
Selects and wears the appropriate personal protective equipment			
Removal of all detachable endoscope parts			
Cleaning (brush and syringe) with approved detergent solution and surface cleaning. <b>Follows manufacture guidelines for cleaning (all steps) of valves and endoscope.</b>			
Rinse endoscope and valves according to manufactures guidelines.			
Proper placement of valves and air/water channel cleaning into the Valvesafe unit.			
<b>Understands that this is a single-use item and how to dispose of it properly.</b>			

Follow Hospital Policy on the Sterilization / disinfection of the endoscope.

Remember to all ways follow manufactures guidelines on cleaning and sterilization of all endoscopes.

**References:**

1. ANSI/AAMI ST91: "Flexible and semi-rigid endoscope processing in health care facilities." 2015.
2. Canadian Standards Association (CSA). CAN/CSA-Z314.8-*Decontamination of Reusable Medical Devices*. 2012.
3. Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) 2012. Released Medical Device Alert on the 9th May 2012.