

## HUMIPAK VERIFICATION TESTS SUMMARY

Dried blood represents a significant challenge to the cleaning of patient used instruments as well as being highly corrosive. Lumened instruments are particularly troublesome due to the potential of biofilm formation. Thus, it is recommended that patient used instruments be cleaned immediately following a procedure. However, this is not always possible. In these cases the standards recommend they be kept moist until the cleaning process can begin.

A study was conducted to verify if Healthmark's New HUMIPACK would maintain a moist environment to reduce the effort needed to clean.

Two known coagulating blood based soils were used. These soils pose a significant challenge that closely mimics human blood. A selection of common surgical instruments were soiled including the most difficult to clean surfaces such as serrated edges, box locks, etc.. The soiled instruments were kept in the Humipak and were observed after 30 min, 2 hr, 24 hr, 3 days and 5 days. A control group was used for both soil types tested. ***It was observed that both types of coagulating soils kept in the Humipak did not dry out but remained moist for up to 5 days.*** Soils applied to the control instruments, dried within a couple of hours.

Next a study was conducted to test moisture retention in soiled cannulated devices. Lumens of suction tips were soiled with a Coagulating blood soil and were kept in the Humipak and observed at 2 hrs, 4 hrs, 2 days and 3 days, to see if the soil remained moist. Their respective controls were left in open air at room temperature. The soiled suction tips were then observed by pushing a fleece stem from their proximal end to the distal end. The suction tips that sat in the Humipak for 2 hrs and 4 hrs, were observed to be similar to their controls in terms of moisture retention. However, ***suction tips in Humipak kept for 2 days and 3 days were observed to be moister than their respective controls.*** The 3 day time point showed a remarkable difference between the test suction tips and the control. The 3 day control was dried out, whereas the one in Humipak was still wet.

This study verifies the claim that blood soiled surgical instruments placed in the Humipak stay moist for a significant amount of time. Thus, making it much easier for reprocessing by reducing the effort required to clean.

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