rinseassure™

# Endoscopy Factsheet

## Is your Automated Flexible Endoscope Reprocessor (AFER)/ Endoscope Washer Final Rinse Water 2024 Compliant?

**AS5369:2023 Water Quality Requirements- Biological**

| Check that your final rinse water samples are collected routinely and analysed to Table.7.3: | | |
|---|---|---|
| TVC (bacteria) | Less than or equal to 10 CFU per 100ml (Monthly) | ✓ |
| *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* | NOT DETECTED in 100ml (Monthly) | ✓ |
| Atypical Mycobacteria | NOT DETECTED in 100ml (Monthly) | ✓ |
| Endotoxin | Less than 30 EU per ml (Annually- unless failed then more frequently until resolved) | ✓ |
| Water Characteristics | As per AFER Manufacturer | ✓ |

### Meeting AS5369:2023 Water Quality Requirements

AS5369 Table 7.3 "Final Rinse Water – Washer Disinfectors in accordance with ISO 15883-4 for Thermolabile Endoscopes" tells us what we need to analyse for, and this analysis must be carried out in accordance with ISO 15883-4.

**Does your laboratory perform a 28-day Mycobacteria test?**
*If not, then testing is non-compliant.*

AS5369:2023 – Clause 7.2.3.1 "laboratories that perform the tests outlined in this standard should meet the requirements of AS ISO/IEC 17025" – NATA in Australia.

Many Pathology labs in Australia are not NATA accredited for the analysis methods required, and simply sending samples to your in-house pathology unit will not meet compliance.

### Water Sampling

**When should water samples be taken?**

Latest GENCA Guidelines (2021) – 10.6.2 – AFERS – "Sample collection should be undertaken a minimum of 12 hours after the last use of the AFER. Ensure waterline disinfection has not occurred during this time."

**Aseptic technique should be used to ensure quality of sample!**

# AS5369:2023 Table 8.1 tells us the sampling frequency

| Test | WD ISO 15883-4 |
|---|---|
| Supply water hardness and chloride | M[a] |
| Final rinse water conductivity | RM |
| Final rinse water TVC | M[b] |
| Final rinse water Endotoxin | A[a] |
| Temperature | EC |
| Chemical dosing volumetric test | EC |
| Time | EC |
| Cleaning efficacy/visual inspection | EI |

RM = refer to the equipment or process IFU.
Frequency: EI = each item; EC = each cycle; D = daily; M= monthly, Q = quarterly; A = annually
[a] Frequency may be adjusted (increased or decreased) according to test results to ensure they remain within the specification (see A.7.2.3.1 for guidance).
[b] TVC plus *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* and (atypical) *Mycobacterium spp.* testing.
[c] Only applies where a filter bank is in use. Testing not required when using sterile water for irrigation and/or disposable point of use filters.
[d] Monthly for the first 12 months, then frequency may be adjusted to a minimum of annually provided test results remain with specification.

## 3 separate sample containers are required:

- ✓ TVC, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, Mycobacteria- in one 500ml container containing a neutralising agent to inactivate any residual chemistry from the AFER
- ✓ 500ml container (no neutralising agent) for Water Chemical Quality Analysis
- ✓ 100ml container (no neutralising agent) for Endotoxin Analysis

## Tristel Rinse Assure is an automated water purification system that combines Reverse Osmosis, filtration and low doses of chlorine dioxide for bacteria-free rinse water every time.

Designed to be connected to an Endoscope Washer Disinfector (EWD). With a streamlined design, Tristel Rinse Assure can be plumbed into a mains water in-line wherever required.

Ensuring endoscopes are rinsed with water of appropriate quality after disinfection is a key part of the decontamination procedure. Rinse water must be free from microorganisms to ensure devices are not re-contaminated. Tristel Rinse Assure doses low levels of chlorine dioxide into the incoming water supply used for rinsing to stop the re-contamination of endoscopes.

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**Scan to discover Tristel Rinse Assure!**

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