



1. Procedure

Protect your patients and clinicians throughout a TEE procedure with CIVCO's point of care solutions. Our line of TEE covers and bite blocks offer protection from damage and cross-contamination. CIV-Flex™ covers provide a tighter fit to the transducer for optimal patient comfort while bite blocks provide a safe passage through the patient's mouth, avoiding transducer damage.

The CIVCO TEE probe holder allows for stable and accurate positioning while holding the transducer in a fixed location for extended periods of time. The TEE transducer holder attaches easily to most tables or surgical rails.

Some national guidelines and standards recommend an initial bedside clean of the device immediately after the procedure, especially if there is potential for delays before full cleaning and disinfection.¹



2. Dirty Transportation

Daily transport of ultrasound probes can pose significant challenges to infection control and probe safety for any department, since dirty probes are transported throughout the facility multiple times a day. CIVCO's new TEE Probe Transport Tray helps you to be compliant with national transport standards and OEM guidelines.

The Joint Commission's recommendation: *"Remove the device from the room in a covered container..."*²

Probe manufacturers (OEMs) provide specific instructions as well: *"To avoid damaging the shaft... Do not bend or coil the flexible shaft of the transducer in less than a 1-ft diameter circle"*³

CIVCO's TEE Probe Transport Tray is disposable and made of recyclable water-resistant material. Its reversible clean/dirty lid simplifies your workflow for safe dirty probe transport, and its special design reduces the risk of damage to the TEE probe and prevents cross-contamination of the transducer shaft coming into contact with the cable/connector.



3. Cleaning

CIVCO's line of enzymatic sponges, disinfectant wipes, and drying wipes are used to efficiently pre-clean the transducer prior to high-level disinfection, as is recommended by industry standards.

*"Cleaning is the removal of visible soil... from objects and surfaces and normally is accomplished manually or mechanically using water with detergents or enzymatic products. Thorough cleaning is essential before high-level disinfection... because inorganic and organic material that remains on the surfaces of instruments interfere with the effectiveness of these processes."*⁴

AIUM guidelines for compliant internal transducer cleaning state: "After removal of the transducer cover (when applicable), remove bulk gel or debris from the transducer. Consider the use of a small brush, especially for crevices and areas of angulation, depending on the design of the particular transducer. Use a damp gauze pad or other soft cloth and a small amount of mild nonabrasive liquid soap, eg, household dishwashing liquid or use a wipe to remove any remaining gel (film)." ⁵

In addition to evidence-based guidelines like the AIUM's, be sure to also follow your probe manufacturer's specific instructions for cleaning.



4. High-Level Disinfection

Compliance with national and professional disinfection guidelines is made simple with the ASTRA TEE® automated high-level disinfection system. The ASTRA TEE disinfects up to two probes at once, reprocesses probes in 10-16 minutes, and electronically documents your full disinfection cycle history.

The CDC recommends: *"Probes such as rectal and vaginal, cryosurgical, transesophageal probes or devices also should be high level disinfected between patients."*⁴

Help reduce long-term operating costs with a reusable disinfectant. ASTRA TEE is compatible with three industry-leading disinfectants: Revital-OX® RESERT® HLD (hydrogen peroxide), CIDEX® OPA and MetriCide™ OPA Plus. ASTRA ensures the correct use of disinfection consumables and tracks all necessary disinfectant solution and test strip information.

Electrical leak tests help you properly maintain your TEE probes and protect patients. The Intersocietal Accreditation Commission requires leak testing between each use of your TEE probe. The ASTRA TEE integrates easily with leakage testing systems and enables electronic logging of results.⁶



5. Storage

The Joint Commission's recommendation on semi-critical devices (TEE probes):

*"Store the device in a manner that will protect from damage or contamination... hanging vertically in a cabinet and storing in a clean environment."*⁷

CIVCO's Storage Cabinets protect probes and reduce risk of contamination. HEPA filtration provides continuous airflow using positive pressure, vertical suspension facilitates drying and avoids over-coiling of probe, and specialty shelves safeguard probes from damage.

TEE tip guards protect the transducer from damage during storage and transport between patients.



6. Clean Transportation

Daily transport of ultrasound probes can pose significant challenges to infection control and probe safety for any department, since clean probes are transported throughout the facility multiple times a day. CIVCO's new TEE Probe Transport Tray helps you to be compliant with national transport standards and OEM guidelines.

Its reversible clean/dirty lid simplifies your workflow for safe clean probe transport, and its special design reduces the risk of damage to the TEE probe and prevents cross-contamination of the transducer shaft coming into contact with the cable/connector.



1. ANSI/AAMI 2013:ST58, "Chemical sterilization and high-level disinfection in health care facilities", 2013
2. The Joint Commission, Infection Prevention and Control (IC) (Ambulatory Health Care / Ambulatory Health Care). 2018. https://www.jointcommission.org/standards_information/jcfaqdetails.aspx?StandardsFAQId=1660&StandardsFAQChapterId=69&ProgramId=0&ChapterId=0&IsFeatured=False&IsNew=False&Keyword=transport
3. Philips, "Care and Cleaning of Ultrasound System and Transducers", 2018
4. CDC Guideline for Disinfection and Sterilization in Healthcare Facilities, 2008.
5. "Guidelines for Cleaning and Preparing External- and Internal-Use Ultrasound Transducers and Equipment Between Patients as well as Safe Handling and Use of Ultrasound Coupling Gel." (Approved 3/5/21). <http://www.aium.org/officialStatements/57>
6. IAC Standards and Guidelines for Adult Echocardiography Accreditation. (Published 6/1/2017). <https://www.intersocietal.org/echo/standards/IACAdultEchocardiographyStandards2017.pdf>
7. The Joint Commission (TJC), "Use of Self-Contained High Level Disinfection Units for Semi-Critical Devices," October 22, 2013.



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