

NMCP Branch Health Clinic Optometry SOP for Tonometer Prism Disinfection

Note: NMCP Infection Control recommends the use of disposable, one time use prisms. However, if reusable tonometer prisms are used, (and this should be a rare occasion), follow the guidelines listed below:

1. ALWAYS refer to manufacturer's recommendations for disinfection of this device BEFORE reprocessing.
2. Recommended disinfection process per the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC):
 - Remove measuring prism carefully from holder.
 - Wipe each prism clean.
 - Place used/dirty prisms in a plastic, covered container labeled BIOHAZARD written on the lid. MAKE SURE THE PRISMS DO NOT OVERLAP ONE ANOTHER during the 10 min. soaking time. Label this container as "Used/Dirty Tonometer Prisms".
 - Disinfect the prisms by soaking in a 10% aqueous solution of sodium hypochlorite (household bleach) i.e., 1 ounce bleach, 10 ounces tap water, making sure the prism (s) is completely under the solution for 10 minutes. **It is important to use a timer for this process.**
 - Rinse the prism(s) thoroughly using cold water.
 - Allow the tonometer prism(s) to air dry on a clean field/surface.
 - Store in a clean, dry, sealed plastic container marked "Clean Tonometer Prisms".
 - Maintain a log book of each disinfection procedure which should include the date, duration of disinfection, and name of person performing the process.
3. **Special notes regarding the tonometer prism disinfection process:**
 - Prisms can be processed in bulk, making sure no overlapping takes place during soaking.
 - Areas performing this process can use small plastic containers for the disinfection and rinsing processes. These containers should be labeled with the contents of each such as 10% aqueous bleach solution or rinse water and the date on both containers.
 - The bleach solution must be made fresh DAILY.
 - Always use fresh water for rinsing.

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