Scope Dry Check SDC-001

Scope Dry Check is a test designed to check for residual water in lumen/channeled instruments after the drying is completed. This test is used on the clean side in sterile processing area on items that are required to be completely dry for low temperature sterilization or to check lumened instruments like endoscopes for residual moisture prior to storage or reuse.

Research has shown that residual moisture could be a breeding ground for microorganisms. Industry standards are pushing facilities to be sure scopes are completely dry. Drying with instrument air after cleaning is necessary to help prevent bacteria from growing.

The test is made of a hydrochromic ink, that changes color if moistened by water. The response time is 2 to 5 seconds. This is an irreversible, single use test.

The card is placed at the distal end of the channel while air is flushed through the channel. If any white dots become visible on the card at any time during the test procedure, resume drying and retest with a new card.

In Laboratory tests even 50 nL of water could be visually detected on the card. Following are the photos of the detection. Note the white spots on the card.

50 nL pipetted on the card:



0.5 μl pipetted from 2 cm:



5 μl through the lumen using forced air: (scattered droplets observed)

