

Guideline

Cleaning of the Draeger neonatal incubator

1 Scope

For use within the Paediatric and Neonatal Decision Support and Retrieval Service (PaNDR) for the East of England.

2 Purpose

To provide guidance for the PaNDR team in the safe and effective general and deep cleaning of the Draeger Isolette transport incubator.

3 Definitions and abbreviations

- **General cleaning** – carried out after every transfer with Tristel Jet solution.
- **Deep cleaning** – carried out with Tristel Jet once a month and after transfer of every infant with known colonization or infection.

4 Introduction

Cleaning is routinely undertaken by the neonatal clinical assistants on the Neonatal Unit for the Neonatal PaNDR team. However, cleaning may be required to be undertaken between transfers if the team is unable to return to base. This is the responsibility of all members of the PaNDR team.

Gloves and aprons must be worn.

- The transport incubator must be cleaned after every transfer to minimise the risk of spread of infection between infants.
- If necessary, general and deep cleaning can take place in the referring/receiving unit before the next transfer.

5 General cleaning

Turn off the incubator and unplug from the mains.

- Open the portholes and doors and remove the cuffs and silicone access inserts. Leave to soak in hot soapy water whilst the rest of the incubator is being cleaned with the Tristel Jet solution.
- Remove the entry port sleeve from the end door access port and discard.
- Remove the positioning bumper, Z-Flo mattress, wash and dry well. Remove the rails and wash and dry thoroughly.
- Wash the tray and perspex incubator hood inside and out and dry thoroughly.
- Wipe monitoring equipment, leads and infusion pumps with Tristel Jet solution and dry thoroughly.
- Take the door cuffs and silicone access inserts from the soapy water and leave to air dry.
- Reassemble and make up incubator with clean linen for next transfer.

6 Disassembling the incubator for deep cleaning

Turn the incubator off and unplug from the mains.

- Open the portholes and doors and remove cuffs and silicone inserts. Leave to soak as above.
- Remove the entry port sleeve from the end door access port and discard.
- Open the main door and remove the Z-Flo mattress and set aside for cleaning.
- Unscrew and remove the rails – set aside for cleaning.
- Press the metal mattress tray-stop beneath the tray and slide the tray off the base through the end access door.
- Reclose and secure the access doors.
- Remove the four pumps and the neopuff from above the incubator hood.
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- Release the four black rubber hood clips located at the front and rear corners of the incubator.
- Fully lift - both hoods together - off the base and set aside on a trolley.
- Unclip the four corners on the cream incubator base and lift off, revealing the fan and metal heat dispersers.
- Sterilization of any component of the transport incubator is generally not necessary, however cold liquid sterilization can be used if required.

7 The deep cleaning process

7.1 The incubator base

- Remove any visible lint/ debris and wipe the base with Tristel solution.
- Take extra care to clean along the rubber seals around the edge of the base where the hood sits.

7.2 The upper and outer hood shells

- Clean all surfaces thoroughly with the Tristel solution.
- Dry with a clean cloth or paper towel ensuring there are no smears.
- Inspect the 'feet' on the underside of the upper shelf for damage.

7.3 Mattress tray, mattresses and rails

- Use Tristel Jet solution to clean all the surfaces and rails thoroughly.
- Dry with a clean cloth or paper towel.

7.4 Trolley base and shelf

Wash the trolley base, rails and shelf and dry thoroughly.

8 Reassembling after cleaning

- Lower the cream base back on and clip it back in place. Carefully place the inner hood shell into the outer shell, ensuring the port-holes and inner shell doorway are aligned.
- Install both hoods together onto the base ensuring inner and outer shells are sitting securely in the grooves around the edge of the base.
- Secure the black hood clips.
- Replace the restraint rails on the mattress tray.
- Place both mattresses on the tray and slide the tray back in (clear plastic foot end first) until it clicks over the release tab and stops at the right end of the base.
- Replace the tubing access inserts and door cuffs with a clean, previously washed and dried set.
- Install a new entry port sleeve on the end door access port.
- Replace the Draeger incubator filter located at the back of the incubator.
- Replace the pumps and neopuff.
- Remake the incubator with clean linen.



- Plug the incubator back into the mains, turn it on and check the set temperature is 36°C.

9 Monitoring compliance with and the effectiveness of this document

The PaNDR team will monitor compliance with this document by undertaking regular audits

The effectiveness of the document will be monitored by review of any reported incidents.

10 Associated documents

- Draeger Isolette manual
- [Tristel Jet Safety Data](#)

Equality and diversity statement

This document complies with the Cambridge University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust service equality and diversity statement.

Disclaimer

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Document management

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Appendix 1: Use of Tristel Fuse first aid measures/ Exposure controls/personal protection

Use of Tristel Fuse First aid measures:	
Inhalation:	Non-toxic
Eye contact:	Rinse eyes with water
Skin contact:	Wash affected area with water
Ingestion:	Do not induce vomiting. Give water to drink Seek medical advice where necessary

Exposure controls/personal protection:	
Personal protection:	Avoid eye contact and prolonged skin contact Gloves and apron recommended
Skin contact:	Low risk
Eye contact:	Low risk
Inhalation:	Low risk
Ingestion:	Low risk, substantial ingestion may cause discomfort to mouth and digestive tissues