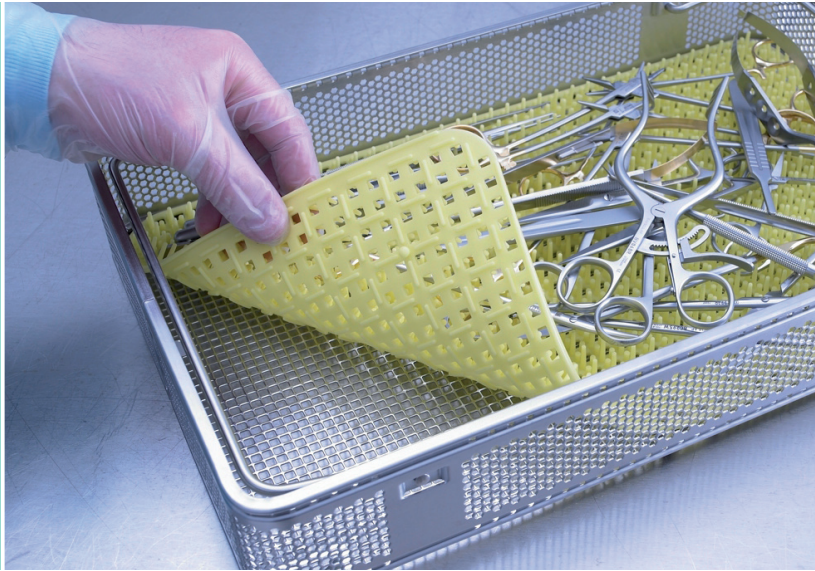


Aesculap[®] Tray System

Cleaning tests

Aesculap instrument trays and silicone mats



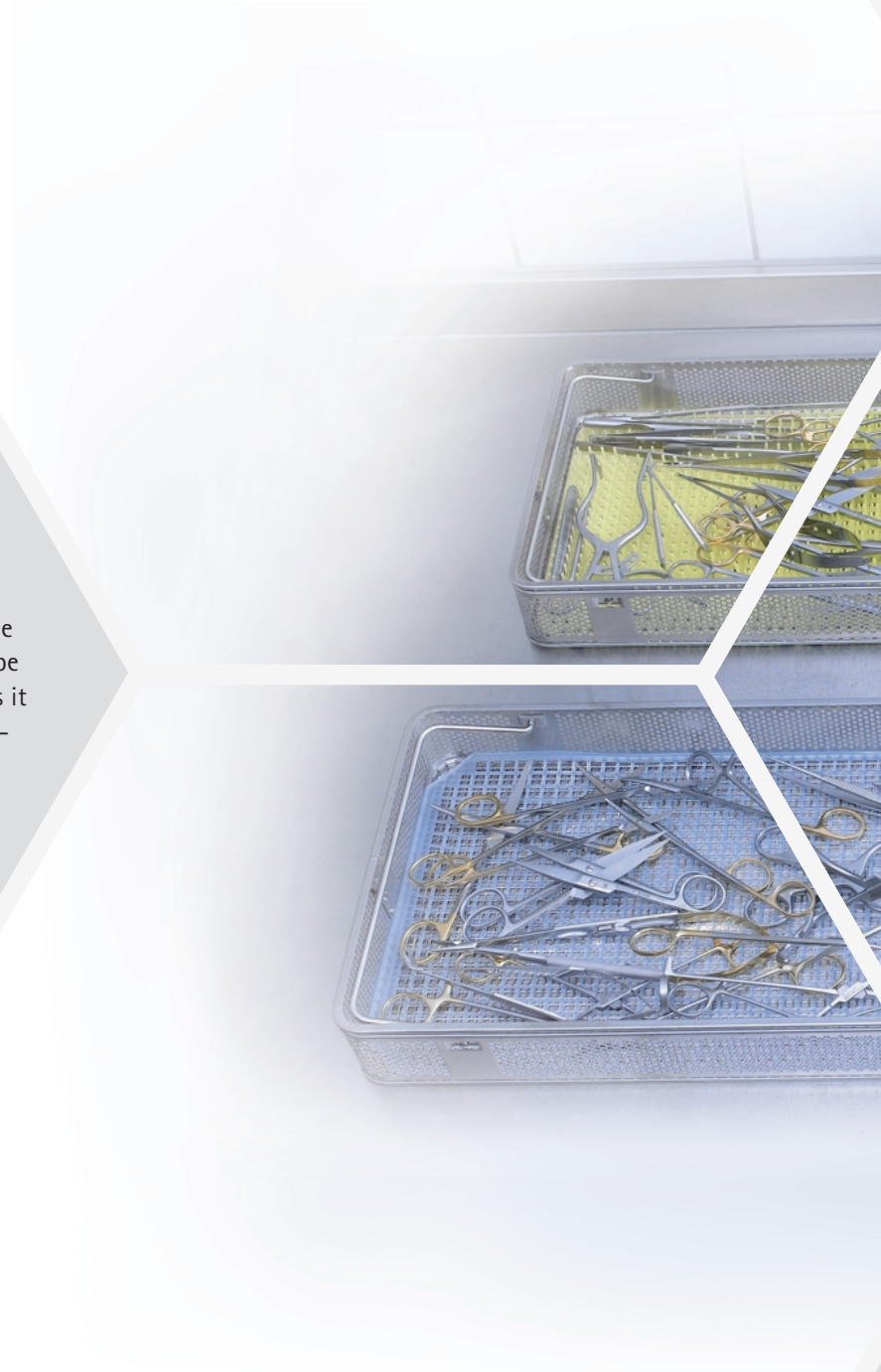
Aesculap Sterile Technology

Aesculap[®] Tray System

Abstract

A selection of different instruments (forceps, needle holders, scissors, wound retractors, scalpel handles, micro instruments) were soiled at our laboratory and distributed between three Aesculap instrument trays of varying sizes and depths which were lined with either a nub mat or a silicone mat. The prepared trays were then dried for 6 hours and, without undergoing any initial cleaning, subsequently subjected to mechanical cleaning. After the cleaning process, all of the instruments, even poorly accessible joints, were found to be completely clean. Furthermore, in none of the cases was it possible to find any evidence of residual soiling on the silicone mats or beneath.

Due to the special perforated design of our mats, the instruments had only intermittent contact with the base, eliminating pooling of liquid and thus ensuring that drying was also successful.





Introduction

The modern honeycomb design of the Aesculap trays facilitates thorough rinsing of the instruments contained within. The silicone mats (mesh and nub mats) offer special protection for sensitive and delicate instruments in particular during reprocessing and transport. The larger holes and special design of both types of silicone mat facilitate circulation around the instruments contained in the trays during mechanical cleaning.

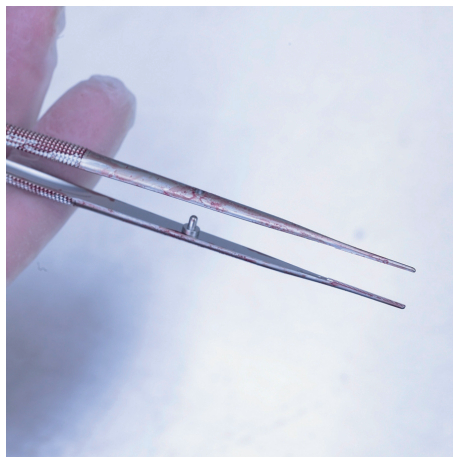
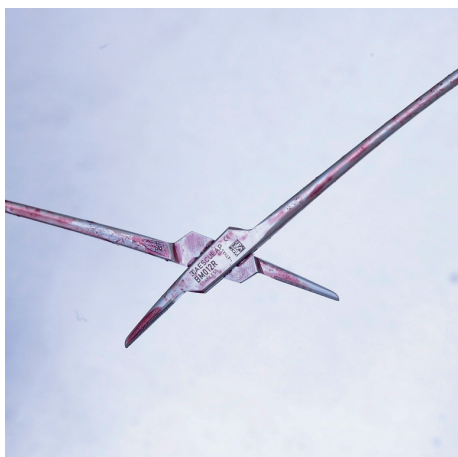
Points of contact between the instruments and the mat and between the mat and the tray are kept to an absolute minimum ensuring optimum cleaning and drying results.

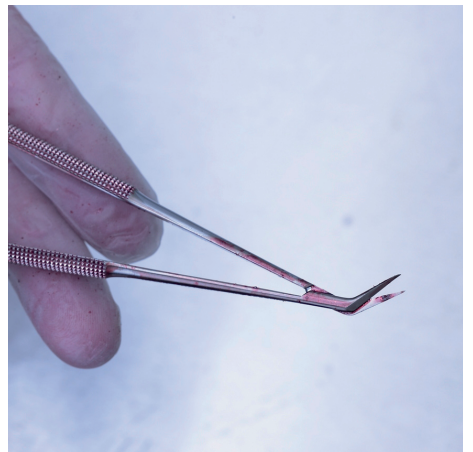
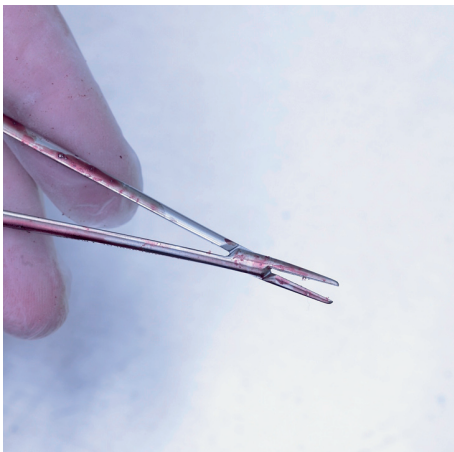
Aesculap[®] Tray System

Method

The soiling was smeared on by hand (using a disposable glove). Special attention was paid to contaminating joints and poorly accessible areas.

A Miele thermal disinfector (standard program) was used for the mechanical cleaning/disinfection, which was completed without the instruments undergoing any manual pre-cleaning, ultrasonic cleaning or other similar initial cleaning process.

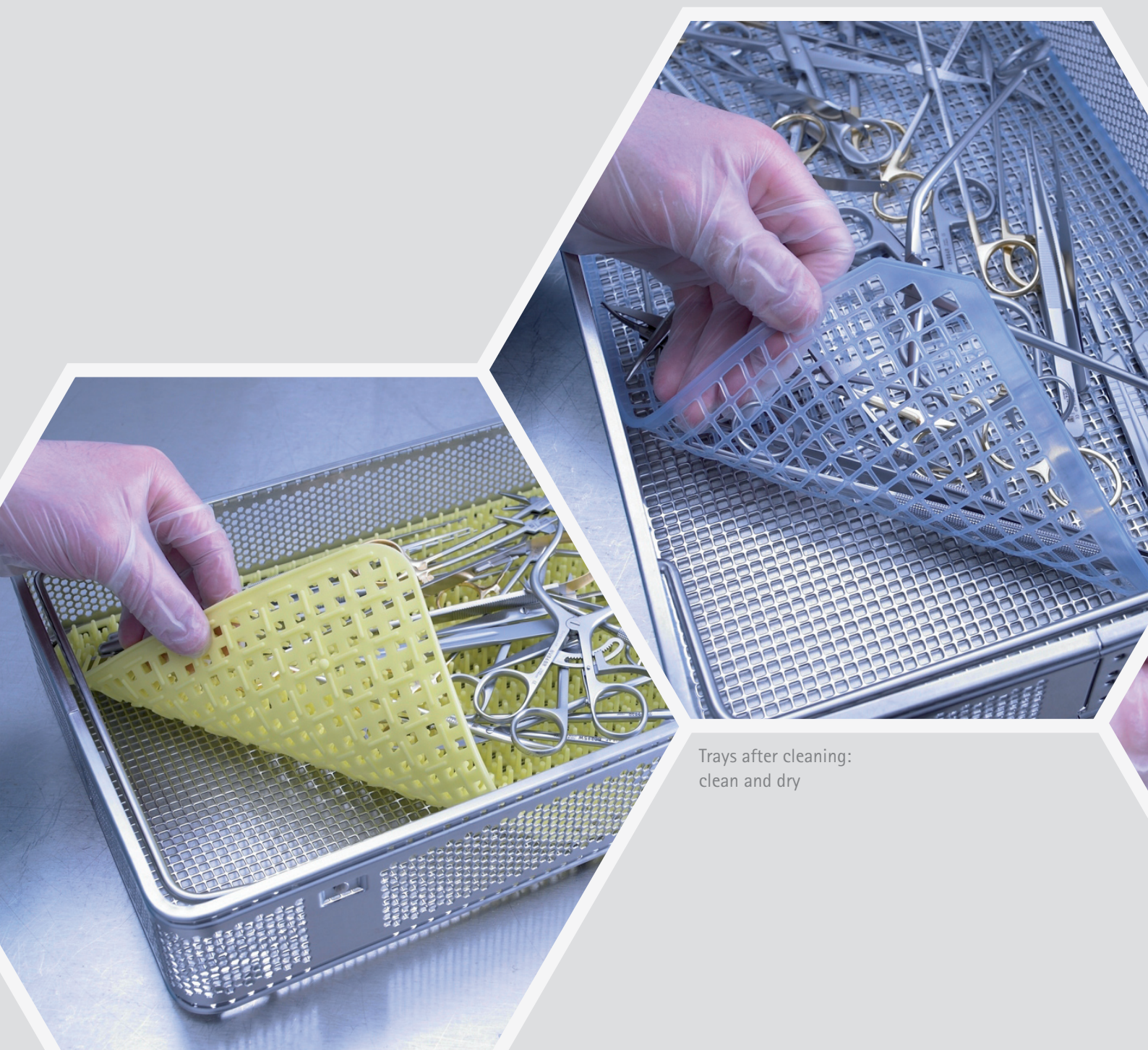




Aesculap[®] Tray System

Results

The instruments, the mats and the trays were all completely clean. No residual soiling was found. Nor was there any moisture remaining in the tray beneath the mat.



Trays after cleaning:
clean and dry

Conclusion

The test shows that Aesculap trays used in combination with our silicone mats are highly suitable for use in reprocessing. The silicone mats provide a protective, non-slip base for the instruments during reprocessing and do not have a negative effect on the cleaning results. The special design of the mats means that the instruments have only intermittent contact with the base, eliminating pooling of liquid and thus considerably facilitating drying.



Needle holder



Micro needle holder

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Aesculap – a B. Braun company

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