**Steps for Cleaning and Disinfection of Ultrasound Probes**

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<th>Device Classification</th>
<th>Invasiveness</th>
<th>Required Process</th>
<th>Device Examples</th>
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<td>Non-critical</td>
<td>Only touches intact skin</td>
<td>Low-level Disinfection (LLD)</td>
<td>Linear, curvi-linear, phased array u/s probes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Certain Semi-critical</td>
<td>Touches non-intact skin</td>
<td>Intermediate-level Disinfection</td>
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<tr>
<td>Semi-critical</td>
<td>Touches mucous membranes or non-intact skin</td>
<td>High-level Disinfection (HLD)</td>
<td>Endocavitary u/s probes Bronchoscopes</td>
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<td>Critical</td>
<td>Enters sterile tissue or vascular system</td>
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**Intact Skin**
- Non-critical: no blood or body fluid exposure anticipated
- Examples: Abdominal u/s, pelvis u/s
- Difficult IV access/Central venous access
- Barrier Required: Clean or sterile probe cover as applicable to procedure
- Non-sterile or sterile u/s gel as applicable to procedure

**Mucous Membrane or Non-intact Skin**
- Semi-critical: contact with mucous membranes
- Examples: Transvaginal/Transrectal
- Barrier Required: Clean probe cover and sterile u/s gel

**Sterile Tissue or Cavity**
- Critical: contact with sterile tissue
- Examples: Wound assessment, aspirations, and drainages.
- Barrier Required: Sterile probe cover and sterile u/s gel

**Blood or body fluids Noted during procedure?**
- Yes
  - **Pre-clean at bedside**
    - Remove probe cover and discard in regular waste container.
    - Remove u/s gel residue with soft cloth or running water.
    - Inspect probe and cable for damage.
    - Disconnect probe.

**Cleaning**
- Clean and disinfect probe using low-level disinfection (LLD):
  - Wipe probe with Oxivir TB wipe.
  - Allow to air dry for one minute.

**Storage:** Replace reprocessed probes that are labeled as clean in the u/s probe holder.

**High-Level Disinfection (HLD)**
- In reprocessing room, follow manufacturer’s guidelines for trophon.
- **Storage:** Replace reprocessed probes that are labeled as clean in the u/s cabinet

* Ultrasound probes used during critical procedures that cannot withstand sterilization must be high-level disinfected.