

Haag-Streit Slit Lamps

**Considerations on how to clean and
disinfect slit lamps to lower the risk of
COVID-19 transmission.**



1 Background

This cleaning and disinfection advice has been written as a reaction to the COVID-19 pandemic. Given the severe threat to public health and our lack of in-depth knowledge on the transmission of disease, it is essential to minimize any proven or potential risk of cross infection, especially for non-disposable devices such as a slit lamp. This advice has been written using the current limited knowledge of the disease.

2 Cleaning and Disinfection Instructions

The parts of the device, and all applied parts, including the head rest, which are touchable by patient or operator should be disinfected prior to every examination (e.g., with 70% ethanol disinfectant wipes) in order to comply with general hygiene requirements and according to instruction of use to prevent the transmission of infections. We recommend that chin rest papers be used for each patient and disposed of after examination.

Haag-Streit slit lamps and their accessories can, if required, be carefully wiped down with ready-for-use disposable 70% ethanol disinfectant wipes. Surface-friendly disinfectants (containing aldehyde or aldehyde-free) are also permitted, such as Kohrsolin FF.

3 Items to Note

- **In order to minimize the transmission of any infectious disease, it is recommended that a breath shield is used on the slit lamp**
- If available, use disposable tonometer prisms
- These instructions do not apply to tonometer measuring prisms
- Tonometer measuring prisms must be prepared in accordance with a different manual
- Do not use sprays
- Observe the manufacturer's safety instructions
- Do not use any cloths that drip
- Wring out any soaked cloths before use, when necessary
- Ensure that no liquid penetrates the device
- Comply with the stipulated exposure time
- Clean optical surfaces after disinfection with a very soft cloth