Instructions for Cleaning: SOMATOM CT Scanners

With the COVID-19 global outbreak, thorough and appropriate cleaning of medical equipment is important to minimizing the spread of the virus in healthcare facilities. To help assist you in site cleaning and disinfecting procedures, we have highlighted the appropriate guidelines regarding your CT Scanner.

These guidelines are applicable to the following:
• SOMATOM Force
• SOMATOM Drive
• SOMATOM Edge Plus
• SOMATOM Definition Family
• SOMATOM Confidence
• SOMATOM Perspective
• SOMATOM Emotion Family
• SOMATOM Spirit
• SOMATOM Scope
• SOMATOM Sensation Family

Suitable Cleaning Agents
You can use the following commercially available cleaning agents with the given restrictions to clean the sides of the table, the table top cover, gantry cover and accessories:

• Commercially available washing-up liquid; can be used without restriction.
• Ethyl alcohol; Ethyl alcohol impairs the surface of the immobilization straps, the protective goggles and the foot switch. The surface of the head cushion will fade with ethyl alcohol.
• Surgical spirit; the surface of the air bellows of the patient table and the head cushion will fade with surgical spirit.

Suitable disinfectants
Disinfectants based on the following active substances have no damaging effect or cause only optical effects on the patient table and accessory surfaces:
• Aldehyde
• Aldehyde decompositors
• Alcohols:
• Quaternary compounds
• Organic acids (not for straps)
• Peroxide compounds
Do not use alcohol, phenol derivatives, aldehyde, or surgical spirits for disinfecting accessories.

Use of disinfectants containing aldehyde or aldehyde decompositors discolors the surfaces of the therapy mattress, positioning mattress and head holder.

Use of disinfectants containing alcohols or quaternary compounds impairs the surface of immobilization straps.

Organic acids and peroxide compounds can be used without restriction.

Unsuitable Cleaning Agents and Disinfectants

Some agents cause damage to the equipment and must not be used.

• Sprays; sprays can enter equipment and damage electrical components. They can also corrode various plastics and form flammable mixtures with air and solvent vapors.

• Abrasive agents or organic solvents

The following agents can cause damage to surfaces or hairline cracks. Even the smallest load can damage the material irreversibly.

- Abrasive cleaning liquids
- Organic solvents, such as aldehyde, acetone, stain remover, cleaner's naphtha, benzine or alcohol
- Agents that release ammonia when they are dissolved or decomposed (Ammonia has a corrosive effect.)
- Agents containing silicone (Silicone decays over time and can form sticky deposits that interfere with electrical contacts.)
- Disinfectants based on substituted phenols or disinfectants that release chlorine

Cleaning gantry and patient table surfaces

Immediately remove residual contrast medium or blood on the gantry or patient table with a wet cloth (warm water).

Cleaning the console monitor screen

The monitor screen has a sensitive anti-reflective coating which has to be treated with care. Clean the monitor screen with a soft cloth, moistened with water if necessary. Do not use cleaning solutions.

Cleaning and Disinfecting the Gantry Operator Panel

Cleaning agents that contain alcohol, such as ethyl alcohol or isopropanol, impair the surface of the gantry operator panel keys. The surface becomes tarnished if cleaning agents that contain more than 70 Vol% alcohol are applied.

After the use of alcohol or surrogate turpentine, always clean the corresponding parts with hot water containing neutral cleaning agent.
Cleaning the Touch Panel

Clean the Touch Panel with a soft cloth moistened with water if necessary. Do not use cleaning solutions. To avoid damage to the surface coating, never use corrosive agents to clean the touch screen’s surface. Using an anti-static cleaner gives the best results when cleaning the touch screen surface. Grease stains can also be removed from the touch screen with water. Always use a damp but not wet cloth.

Cleaning Accessories

Clean accessories with soap solution or diluted cleaning liquid only.

Surgical spirit is not suitable for cleaning foam material. It could cause the surface material to become wrinkled. Use of disinfectants containing alcohols or quaternary compounds discolors the surfaces of the accessories like the positioning mattress.

Cleaning Body Straps

The body straps can be machine-washed at temperatures up to 35°C. Washing may lead to minor changes on the surface of the straps (e.g., it softens the straps). This has no negative impact as washing does not affect the flame-retardance. Only dry-clean or wash restraint straps closed in order to protect the Velcro parts.

On site cleaning and disinfection can be performed using sodium hypochlorite (max. 0.1 % active chlorine) or branded disinfectants.

Cleaning ECG Cables

The ECG cable should be cleaned with isopropyl alcohol or another mild disinfectant only. Other agents, especially substances which contain acetone should not be used. This accessory may not be steam sterilized.

Cleaning the Image Reconstruction System (IRS)

You can use the following cleaning agents to clean the outer surface of the IRS:

• Commercially available washing-up liquid. It can be used without restriction.
• Ethyl alcohol and surgical spirit. It may fade the surface of the IRS.
• Phenol derivatives. It may fade the surface of the IRS.