

LARYNGEAL MASK AIRWAY PROCESSING PATHWAY

Sustainable Perioperative Care

Reusable LMA processing and documentation at Collingwood General and Marine Hospital



1

LMAs are stored in a stacked tower between two ORs.

They are sorted by size and type. Other reusable equipment in this tower includes face masks and laryngoscope blades.

REUSABLE LMA PROCESSING

This is a detailed overview of how reusable LMAs are currently stored, used, and processed at Collingwood General and Marine Hospital.



2

Two types of reusable LMAs: ProSeal (left) and LMA Flexible (right).

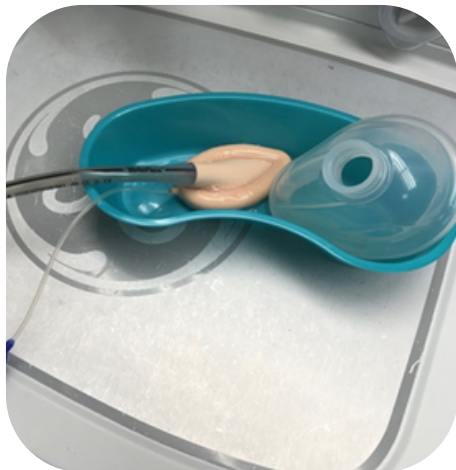
Both the ProSeal and Flexible come in three sizes (3,4,5). Smaller pediatric sizes are stored elsewhere. Packages are clearly labelled with size and a reminder not to discard the LMA. The paper backing of the packaging is recyclable, but the clear blue cover is not. The inside of the clear cover is used to prep the LMA with lubricant before being discarded, and the paper backing is recycled.



3

A dedicated 'Air Only' syringe must be used to inflate and deflate the LMA balloon.

Using a syringe that contains medications or other liquids can damage the LMA making it unsuitable for reuse.



4

A clean reusable K basin is kept on the anesthesia carts for each case.

At the end of the case, soiled reusable airway equipment is placed in the basin by the anesthesiologist.



5

The used airway equipment is taken to the soiled utility room in the OR.



6

The airway equipment is placed in a tote along with other surgical supplies that are reusable.

Equipment is given a quick rinse by MDRD (Medical Device Reprocessing Department) staff.



7

A more thorough rinsing of the equipment is done in MDRD.

The inside of tubing is cleansed with a designated brush. For ProSeal LMAs, MDRD staff have a routine to follow with the red cap on the balloon depending on which stage of the wash cycle the LMA is in.

The cap is opened to let the air out and then closed for washing and high-level disinfection. It is later opened for sterilization. Flexible and Classic LMAs do not have this.

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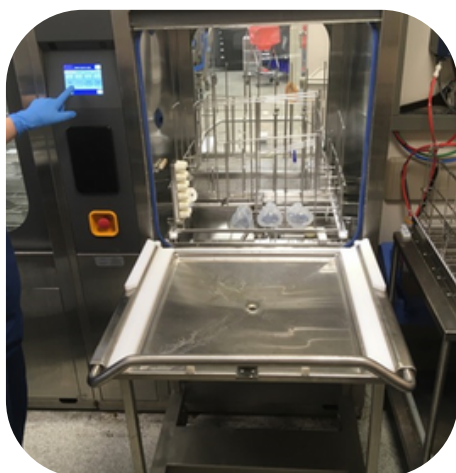




8

LMA blades are placed on the Steris Anesthesia/ Respiratory Rack cart along with other airway equipment.

In the image, a laryngoscope blade and two face masks are also on the rack. The racks can also accommodate anesthesia circuits, which CGMH does not currently reprocess.



9

To capture as many items as possible in one cycle, the tray is placed in the Steris washer at the end of the day.

Equipment undergoes 'high level disinfection.'



10

There is a default setting for anesthesia equipment.



11

After the wash cycle, Items that do not require sterilization are placed in the dryer and then returned to the OR.

Pictured here are ventilation bags, face masks and laryngoscope blades.



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12

LMA's require sterilization according to current standards. This involves additional steps.

LMA's are placed inside a 'Sterilization Pocket' and then the open end is sealed using the 'Sealer' shown on the counter. MDRD staff write the LMA size and 'Do Not Discard' reminder on the outside of the package.



13

LMA's are placed on the Autoclave cart along with other instruments and items to be sterilized.

The tray is slid off the cart into the autoclave. This tray does not show any of the new surgical instrument boxes that are eliminating the need for blue wrap. Obtaining more of these sterilization boxes can reduce waste.



14

After autoclaving, MDRD staff restock LMA's in the OR airway tower.

And then the process resumes!

See further steps on the next page on keeping track of usage.

This resource originated from Collingwood General and Marine Hospital.

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Resource produced in March 2023.



1

Currently, LMAs are used a maximum of 40 times and then they are discarded.

The MDRD department has a supply of reusable LMAs to replace retired equipment as needed.



2

Each LMA comes with a card to document number of usages.

This is an unused LMA Proseal size 3.



3

Each LMA does have a SN (Serial Number) that can be referenced.



4

MDRD staff have developed a binder that they track LMA usage on.

Currently, once an LMA has completed 40 cycles it is retired regardless of condition and a new one is brought into circulation from stock.

KEEPING TRACK OF USE

An additional part of the circular process of using reusable LMAs is to document usage and put new LMAs in circulation when needed.



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