



NEIL KARNOFSKY, DDS

Dr. Karnofsky graduated from Syracuse University and received his dental degree at the New York University College of Dentistry. He completed his residency at Morrisania Neighborhood Family Care Center at Lincoln Hospital and received his Periodontics Certificate at the New York University College of Dentistry in 1986. Dr. Karnofsky has been at the forefront of continuing education throughout his career and routinely presents on topics such as diagnosis and treatment planning, guided implant surgery, and periapical surgery, as well as immediate placement of implants and placing teeth on them in the same day. He is a member of the 1st District Dental Society, American Dental Association, American Academy of Periodontology, North Eastern Society of Periodontists, Academy of Osseointegration, International Congress of Oral Implantology, and a founder of the New York Dental Forum.



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Instrument Management System

STANDARDIZES THE CLEANING, STERILIZATION, STORAGE, AND ORGANIZATION OF INSTRUMENTS IN ONE INTEGRATED CASSETTE SYSTEM



Hu-Friedy's cassette-based Instrument Management System (IMS) is designed to keep instruments organized and intact from cleaning to chairside. It eliminates instrument scrubbing and sorting, protects against breakage, and reduces the risk of injury. In this article, Dr. Neil Karnofsky tells us why IMS has offered a better way of dealing with instruments in his New York City periodontal office.

We were placing loose instruments into pouches for our sterilization protocol before we decided to try the IMS from Hu-Friedy. Achieving proper sterilization with loose instruments in pouches alone can be unpredictable, especially if they develop a puncture or tear. We would spend a great deal of time manually sorting the instruments, and there were a lot of opportunities for a staff member to get a sharps injury.

By switching to the IMS, my periodontal practice has become a safer work environment. This system virtually eliminates hand scrubbing, which cuts down the risk of injuries and exposure to pathogens. It's also safer to transport the instruments this way. After use at chairside, the instruments are already in place within the cassette, so you just close the cassette and carry it



back to the sterilization area.

The IMS cassettes can be customized by procedure, and every instrument has its spot. Everything is color-coded, and cassettes can be clearly marked for certain procedures. They are then cleaned and stored that way. It's very efficient and well organized—keeping the instruments together like this reduces the chance of misplacing them or getting them mixed up.

When it's time to process a cassette, the whole thing can be placed directly into the ultrasonic cleaner or instrument washer, then wrapped and placed in the auto-

clave. We also add one of the Class V Integrator sterilization monitoring strips from Hu-Friedy to each cassette. This gives us assurance that everything has been properly sterilized. We have 2 autoclaves, which run all day long and coordinate very well with the IMS. We go through 15 to 20 sets of instruments every day, and everyone is involved in using the system.

With the IMS, the whole process of infection control is streamlined. Once the protocol is in place, it's easy for everyone to adhere to it. Keeping instruments together in the cassettes saves times in gathering what's needed for a procedure. It standardizes the entire workflow.

We chose to go with Hu-Friedy because of the quality of their products and the quality of the service and support. After almost 3 years of using it, I think the IMS is a better way of cleaning, sterilizing, organizing, and maintaining dental instruments.