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White List of Recommended Disinfection Concentrates for Immersing Easycap Caps and Electrodes?

To make EEG recordings as safe as possible during the Covid-19 pandemic disinfection will be required. Most equipment of an EEG laboratory, like amplifiers, computers, furniture can be disinfected by surface cleaning. They should be wiped with 70% or more alcohol, exposure time at least 30 seconds. Such surface disinfectant are easy to get everywhere.

But the actual EEG-Recording Caps or Nets with electrodes cannot be treated like that. Instead, they need to be immersed into an instrument disinfection solution for several minutes. Here it is in important to choose a material-compatible disinfectant to prevent premature material aging as much as possible. Not every brand is available in every country, therefore we compiled this White List.

For the purpose of immersing Easycap/Brain Products Caps/Nets and Electrodes we compiled here brands of disinfection concentrates which we estimate likely to be comparably material-friendly.

RECOMMENDED BRANDS:

- Sekusept Plus and Perfektan TB have been tested at Easycap, and are safe to use with our equipment (available in Germany)
- Preferred due to user safety are Aldehyd-free disinfectants (e.g. with QACs) like
 - Barbicide
 - Cavicide
 - Cavicide 1
 - Control-III
 - Envirocide
 - Supersteam Ultima
- Fine for the materials are also Aldehyd-based disinfectants. Care for good ventilation:
 - Descoton forte
 - Cidex
 - Cidex-OPA
 - Metricide
 - Metricide OPA
 - Metricide 28

NOT RECOMMENDED INGREDIENTS / METHODS

- Disinfection concentrates with high levels of ethanol alcohol levels should be below <20%
- Strong oxidizers or bleaching agents like hydrogen peroxide or sodium hypochlorite, as those corrosive agents will speed up the deterioration of our products very quickly
- Simple surface or wipe disinfections, as those will not suffice to destroy everything in porous materials as in our equipment. But they can be used for connectors, as they get not immersed into the solution.

For any other agents, please do not hesitate to send us your request via email (support@easycap.de)

PROCESSING INSTRUCTIONS REQUIREMENTS

SARS-CoV-2 is an "enveloped" virus, a virus that comes with a lipid envelope. This lipid envelope can usually be destroyed rather easily. For disinfecting agents, this equals to "low-level" disinfection. "Intermediate-level" or "high-level" disinfection will of course be even more effective, and may be asked for by your local guidlines (e.g. in items that may also come into contact with nonintact skin).

- Please first clean the cap/electrodes except the connectors under the tap from gel remaining electrolyte gel.
- Please make sure that sensors will not get into contact with metal, neither directly or via salt water/gel: use plastic or ceramic dishes/sinks.
- Please always follow the respective instructions for use concentration, soaking time stated for low-level disinfection in your disinfectant, in order to kill enveloped/lipid viruses. (if requested, go for "intermediate" level of disinfection (as against e.g. Norovirus, Rhinovirus)
- Please immerse the entire cap and electrodes into the disinfection solution except the connectors. The latter can be disinfected with surface wipes.
- PLEASE always rinse thoroughly after disinfection procedures, and let dry. Store dry and dark.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Official guidelines on prevention of SARS-CoV-2 may vary across countries and institutions, so please check your local guidelines or follow local hygienic department recommendations if available. Please also care for your personal protection and hand hygiene:

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/cleaning-disinfection.html#How%20to%20Clean%20and%20Disinfect

Many labs now are required to compose their own protocol for safe EEG Recordings. The entire sequence from preparing a recording, welcoming the subject, mounting the cap, performing the data acquisition, dismissing the subject, and cleaning the equipment is a process with many steps. Please find a protocol about how to safely perform the entire sequence here:

Announcement https://erpinfo.org/blog/2020/6/20/covid-19-protocol

Protocol https://protocolexchange.researchsquare.com/article/pex-974/v1

We are confident that it is helpful not to overlook any steps and that it provides many hints which can be adapted to local affordances.

Stay Healthy - Your Easycap Team