Endoscope-associated Infections: A Microbiologist Perspective

Microbiological culture of endoscopes has emerged as a critical tool in support of efforts to improve endoscope processing practices. As healthcare providers increasingly rely on microbiological culture results to make decisions that impact patient safety, it is important to understand the limitations of the methodology as well as the factors that may impact results.

An important part of this discussion is the detection of post-procedure infections and why this is currently so difficult to manage. Implementation of post-procedure surveillance programs aimed at early recognition of colonized and infected patients could improve the management of endoscope-associated infections.


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ENDO-1477508-AA