

Reminder of good practices for using your easySpiral

Sample preparation

Samples used with the easySpiral must be in liquid form and free of particles. It is recommended to use bags with an integrated filter for this purpose. For biphasic samples, using the **"Sample mixing"** mode is recommended.

Use of appropriate reagents and consumables

It is essential to use only reagents and consumables approved by our company:

- **Choice of diluent** (refer to section 5.1 of the manual): For the bottle diluent connected directly to the easySpiral, it is possible to use physiological water, phosphate buffer, Ringer's solution, etc. **Do not use a diluent containing nutrients such as peptones.** If the application requires dilutions with a peptone-containing diluent (e.g., buffered peptone water), pre-fill the containers with 4.5 mL of the diluent and use the **"My diluent"** function. **Whatever diluent is used, it must be sterilized before use.**
- **Choice of disinfectant** (refer to section 9.1 of the manual): Use either **70% ethanol** or a **maximum of 1% active chlorine sodium hypochlorite** (liquid, not tablets) or an H_2O_2 /APA solution.

Check the expiration dates of reagents and consumables and ensure they are stored under appropriate conditions. **Prefer ready-to-use solutions.** For any preparation (diluent or disinfectant), **use only solutions intended for microbiological analysis.** For example, when preparing 1% sodium hypochlorite, do not use bleach intended for domestic use. These products do not undergo the same quality controls as those intended for microbiological analysis and **may contain components whose impact on the easySpiral is unknown.**

Controls and Tests

At a minimum, before each shift, a **control test with sterile water** must be performed before using the equipment, as well as a **blue dye test** (refer to sections 7.5.1 and 7.5.2 of the manual).

Regular cleaning and maintenance

During use:

The capillary through which the sample passes must be disinfected between each sampling. Cleaning is done by pressing the **"Clean"** button. Depending on the usage and type of sample analyzed, you can choose between 2 cleaning modes, **"Normal"** or **"Long"** (refer to section 6.1.4 of the manual). For cleaning, keep the disinfectant and diluent bottles connected to the easySpiral.

After use:

It is necessary to regularly clean and disinfect the instrument according to the instructions provided in the user manual (refer to section 9 of the manual):

- **The cleaning and disinfection process of the system with the EnzyClear solution must be performed at the end of each day of use.** EnzyClear is a solution whose disinfection efficacy has been verified, and its use does not damage the internal system of the easySpiral if used according to our recommendations. After use, it is important to carry out the second part of the disinfection process with the routine diluent and disinfectant bottle connected, to rinse the unit of any traces of EnzyClear (refer to section 9.1 of the manual).
- The bottles connected to the easySpiral must be **sterilized by autoclaving** with their tubing (121°C, 20 minutes). The bottle, diluent, and tubing assembly must be autoclaved before use (refer to section 9.2 of the manual). Additionally, the filters on the bottle connection kits must be replaced after 20 autoclaving cycles.
- The exterior of the device and removable elements (rinsing block, container holder, rotating tray, protective shell) must be cleaned and disinfected with **70% ethanol** or a disinfectant solution compatible with stainless steel (refer to section 9.3 of the manual). **Do not use bleach to clean the exterior of the easySpiral and its removable elements.**
- The rinsing block must be autoclaved regularly, and **the filters replaced every three months** (refer to section 9.4 of the manual).

Preventive maintenance must be performed according to the recommended schedule.

