

Guidelines for reprocessing ultrasound probes (American Institute of Ultrasound in Medicine, Society of Diagnostic Medical Sonography, World Federation for Ultrasound in Medicine and Biology, European Society of Radiology)

Reprocessing step	AIUM	SDMS	WFUMB	ESR
Remove sheath	✓	✓	✓	✓
Inspect sheath		✓		
Inspect transducer		✓		
Remove gel and debris	✓	✓	✓	✓
Using mild soap	✓	✓	✓	✓
Using soft cloth or gauze	✓		✓	
Rinse to remove soap/detergent			✓	
Disinfect according to Spaulding	✓	✓	✓*	✓
Rinse if indicated for disinfection method	✓	✓	✓	
Dry thoroughly	✓	✓		✓

*WFUMB recommends HLD for all probes

Spaulding classification and reprocessing recommendations

Guideline	Spaulding classification	Prcleaning	Disinfection/Sterilization		
			LLD	HLD	Sterilize
AIUM	Critical	✓		✓	
	Semi-critical	✓		✓	
	Non-critical	✓	✓		
SDMS	Critical	✓		*	✓
	Semi-critical	✓	*	✓	
	Non-critical	✓	✓	**	
CDC HICPAC	Critical	✓		*	✓
	Semi-critical	✓		✓	

*Sterile probe covers required if HLD is used for critical probes or LLD is used for semi-critical probes

**Required for guidance procedures

Spaulding and recommendations for transducer covers and coupling gel

Guideline	Spaulding classification	Transducer cover		Coupling gel		
		Sterile	Non-sterile	Sterile, single-use	Non-sterile, single-use	Non-sterile, multi-use
AIUM	Critical					
	Semi-critical	✓	✓	✓		
	Non-critical				✓	✓
SDMS	Critical	*		✓		
	Semi-critical	*		✓	✓	
	Non-critical	**		**	✓	✓
CDC HICPAC	Critical	✓				
	Semi-critical	✓	✓			
	Non-critical					

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**Required for guidance procedures