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The relevant automated biocide concentration monitor

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E ndoscope reprocessing guidelines recommend a testing concentration of biocides for every cycle. Despite the advancements in technology, operators of Automated Endoscope Reprocessors (AERs) are still required to test biocide concentration manually often using test strips. Manual testing biocide concentration increases the risk of staff exposure to biocides as well as increasing the chance of inaccurate reading due to human errors or subjective interpretation. Due to the rapid rise in the number of endoscopy reprocessing, endoscopy centers are leveraging automation to minimize inefficient processes. Automated biocide concentration monitors use chemistry and colorimetry techniques to provide an accurate reading of biocides concentration for every cycle. Compared to manual testing, the novel automated systems improve the efficiency of reprocessing endoscopes and enhance compliance, consistency, and reliability.

Prolonged maternal Zika viremia as a marker of adverse perinatal outcomes

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There is ongoing controversy as to whether prolonged maternal viremia after Zika infection represents a risk factor for maternal-fetal transmission and subsequent adverse outcomes. In this prospective cohort study, we enrolled ZIKV-infected pregnant women with a positive polymerase chain-reaction at inclusion, and non-infected pregnant women tested by serology in each trimester and at delivery from January to July 2016. Prolonged viremia was defined as ongoing virus detection at least 30 days post infection. Adverse outcomes (fetal loss or neurologic anomalies) were more common in fetuses and neonates from mothers with prolonged viremia (6/15; 40.0%) compared to those from infected mothers without prolonged viremia (1/19; 5.3%, adjusted Relative Risk (aRR) 7.2 [95%CI 0.9-57.6]) or those from non-infected mothers (20/332; 6.6%, aRR 6.7 [95%CI 3.0-15.1]), respectively. Congenital infections were confirmed more often in fetuses and neonates from mothers with prolonged to others (60% vs 26.3% vs 0.0%): aRR 2.3 [95%CI 0.9-5.5].

Notes: