

Patient Safety Alert

Veterans Health Administration Warning System
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- Item:** Olympus 180 series endoscopes and Steris Quick Connects
- Specific Incident:** Olympus model CFQ180AL scopes were being reprocessed in a Steris System 1 when it was discovered the attached Quick Connect cognitive aid (placard) did not list it for use with the CFQ180AL. The Steris Quick Connect QLC 1676, which is compatible with the Olympus CFQ160AL colonoscope, is not intended to be used with the Olympus CFQ180AL colonoscope. Although both these scopes look alike and the QLC 1676 easily connects to all the ports of the Olympus CFQ180AL scope, neither Steris nor Olympus can guarantee that the CFQ180AL scope will be properly cleaned and sterilized when reprocessed in the Steris System 1 with the currently available quick connects.
- General Information:** Olympus America Inc. Endoscopy Group has launched new 180 series endoscopes (colonoscopes and gastroscopes). These devices are **not** compatible with the current Steris Quick Connects for cleaning and sterilizing in the Steris System 1.
- Action:**
- 1) Effective immediately do not use the Steris System 1 to reprocess Olympus 180 series endoscopes.
 - 2) Immediately begin to follow manufacturer's (Olympus) recommended instructions to manually clean and sterilize the 180 series scopes. Refer to Olympus Reprocessing Manual, Instructions for Evis Exera II Gastrointestinal Videoscope and Colonovideoscope Type 180 series.
 - 3) By close of business October 14, 2005, tag or label Olympus 180 series endoscopes to remind staff not to use the Steris System 1 for reprocessing this model until a quick connect harness for this scope is available.
- Addl. Information:** Refer to the Patient Safety Alert issued by NCPS on February 13, 2004. http://vaww.ncps.med.va.gov/alerts/EndoscopeCleaning_all.doc
- Source:** VISN 4 and the Manufacturer.
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