**Forceps Cleaning**

All instruments need to be cleaned before they are sterilized. Oils left behind from the manufacturing process can stick onto the forceps and cause staining if proper cleaning is not completed prior to sterilization. All forceps should be washed with a non-corrosive, low suds, neutral detergent. Instrument cleaning can be accomplished by hand scrubbing or ultrasonic cleaning.

**Stainless Steel Instruments**

While stainless steel has superior corrosion resistance, it will discolor and corrode when exposed to higher than recommended chemical concentrations or certain chemicals.

Stainless steel **should not be exposed** to the following chemicals for more than **four hours**:

- Aluminum Chloride
- Barium Chloride
- Bichloride of Mercury
- Calcium Chloride
- Carbolic Acid
- Chlorinated Lime
- Citric Acid
- Dakin’s Solution
- Ferrous Chloride
- Lysol
- Mercuric Chloride
- Mercury Salts
- Phenol
- Potassium Permanganate
- Potassium Thiocyanate
- Sodium Hypochlorite
- Stannous Chloride
- Tartaric Acid

The following chemical should **never** be used with stainless steel

- Aqua Regia
- Ferric Chloride
- Sulphuric Acid
- Hydrochloric Acid
- Iodine

After cleaning, follow proper **Heat Sterilization** method preferred and used in office.