**COAG.WATER.2.0 Special Coag Waterbath/Freezer Cleaning Procedure**

**STATEMENT OF PURPOSE:**

This procedure will provide guidelines and operations for the successful cleaning and defrosting of coagulation’s waterbath and freezer.

**OWNERS:** Manager,Regional Special Coagulation

**RELATED DOCUMENTS**

COAG.WATER.2.1 Waterbath-Freezer Cleaning Log

**MATERIALS:**

1. Sponges or soft cloths for cleaning
2. Insulated gloves for defrosting -80°C freezer
3. Ice scraper
4. Adsorbent floor covering for both waterbath cleaning (spills) and freezer defrosting

**REAGENTS:**

1. Liquinox-Alconox, Inc, item 12320.2-laboratory soap used for cleaning waterbath. Stable until the expiration date on the bottle.
2. Clinical Laboratory Reagent Grade Water (CLRW) used to clean and wash the waterbath.

**EQUIPMENT:**

1. Fisher Scientific isotemp 210 waterbath with lid.
2. Thermo Scientific Revco Ultima Plus freezer

**PROCEDURE:**

**Waterbath cleaning: This should be performed every other month.**

1. Turn off and unplug the waterbath.
2. Remove lid. Slide the lid and hinge left or right out of the slot for the hinge. Set lid aside for cleaning later. Remove the thermometer and clip from the front of the waterbath and carefully set aside.
3. Carefully carry waterbath to sink and remove incubating racks and set in sink.
4. Pour water from waterbath into the sink very carefully making sure that no splashes are created.
5. Make up a 1% solution of Liquinox (1 ml conc. Liquinox and 99 ml of CLRW) in the empty waterbath.
6. Set previously removed incubation racks into the waterbath and wash off racks with soft cloth or a sponge. After incubating racks are washed, set aside for rinsing.
7. Wash the interior of the waterbath carefully, also wash the outside of the waterbath off and the lid that was previously set aside.
8. After all parts of the waterbath are washed, start rinsing the incubation racks off with CLWR. Once the racks are rinsed set aside.
9. Dump the 1% Liquinox down the sink and fill the waterbath with CLWR to rinse. Swirl and dump rinse water down the drain. Repeat the rinsing process as many times as needed to remove all of the “soap and foam” from the waterbath.
10. After ensuring that all the Liquinox is removed from the waterbath, partially fill the waterbath with CLWR and carefully carry the waterbath back to the benchtop.
11. Finish filling the waterbath using a clean container to carry the CLWR from the sink to the waterbath.
12. Replace the lid, by sliding the hinge mechanism into the slot that it was previously removed from.
13. Plug in the waterbath (make sure that there is no water on the electrical plug).
14. Flip on the power switch.
15. Replace the thermometer and clip back onto the front of the waterbath.
16. Allow the waterbath to equilibrate for several hours.
17. After the temperature has equilibrated, check the thermometer (not the front digital display) for the most accurate temperature. If the temp is stable and is still not at 37.0°C, then the thermometer and display should be calibrated. This can be done by:
18. Place the waterbath into calibrate mode by pressing and holding the UP/DOWN arrow pads simultaneously until the 2 outside decimal places begin to flash. The display can now be changed by using the UP or DOWN arrow pad until the temperature is in sync on the display and the thermometer.
19. To set the temperature set point:
20. Press the UP or DOWN arrow pad one time. The display will blink and show the current set point.
21. Use the UP or DOWN arrows to change the set point. If the arrows are not pressed for 5 seconds the display will stop blinking and the water bath temperature will be displayed.
22. After changing the temperature, allow 2 hours for the waterbath to equilibrate before making any other changes to the temperature.

**Freezer cleaning: This should be performed every other month.**

1. Place some adsorbent, protective floor covering down in front of the Revco Ultima Plus freezer to adsorb water and keep from slipping.
2. Using the proper protective equipment (freezer gloves, mask, and scrapper), scrape the ice around the seal between the door and the body of the freezer. This is the most common and first place that ice accumulates in the freezer. It is not necessary to remove the “frost” from each section of the freezer every time that ice is removed from the seal and door panels.
3. Also remove the ice from the inner doors of each section (shelf) of the freezer as well as the interior of the exterior door.
4. Try to catch the ice and frost in a container and dump into to the sink and run some warm water into the sink to quicken the melting of the ice and frost.
5. After finished with the “defrosting” of the freezer, clean up the adsorbent material on the floor and make sure that all water spots are removed.

**PROCEDURE NOTES:**

Anytime that there is a biological spill (plasma or serum) into the waterbath, it should be cleaned, regardless of the cleaning schedule.

**REFERENCES:**

1. Water Baths, Bibby Scientific, technical note : T06-001A
2. Operation and Maintenance of the Isotemp 210 watebath