

Bending Rubber Leaks



The most common endoscope repair is replacing the bending rubber. The bending rubber is the most delicate portion of the scope, but you can reduce the number of bending rubber repairs by taking a few simple precautions.

Possible cause of repairs:

- Holes, tears, or cuts caused by impact of sharp objects
- Old and/or worn bending rubbers
- Patient bites

Precautions you can take:

- Avoid contact with needles and other sharp objects
- Protect the distal tip; for instance enclose the distal tip in your hand when carrying the scope
- Avoid dragging the scope on the ground
- Avoid contact with hard objects, such as the floor or a door jamb
- Use a circular motion when cleaning or drying the distal tip to avoid excess pressure on the bending rubber
- Use bite blocks to avoid bites
- Smooth any rough edges in sterilizers, scope washers, and disinfectors that may tear the bending rubber
- Keep an organized storage area where the tip will not come into contact with the floor or sharp objects while stored

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