Care and handling must be given great consideration with surgical devices for their proper function and longevity. Instrument Prep Working Groups “proper Maintenance of Instruments” commonly known as the “German Red Book” and also the book “Proper Care of Instruments in Veterinary Surgery” is a great resource of information for the long term care of these devices. The manufacturers Instructions for Use is essential for determining how to maintain, care for the device and what preventative measures must be taken. As mentioned in the previous lecture on Assembly users must inspect surgical instruments and devices carefully prior to sterilization or High Level Disinfection. The safety of the user and patient depends on it. Most surgical grade instrumentation has a lifetime warranty against manufacturing defects if sent back to the Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM). Most users do not know this or take advantage of this. A lot of dollars can be saved if this is utilized. A preventative maintenance and inspection program should be put into place for the instrumentation and devices. Typically devices are inspected every six months or yearly as a minimum. Most vendors will inspect the devices at no charge and provide a quote for work needed. Some can perform this onsite as to minimize downtime of instruments. The OEM can be used for repairs or a third party repair facility. Care must be taken in selecting a qualified third party repair facility. Lifetime warranties may be jeopardized possibly if they are utilized. Most minor stains or discoloration can be treated by users with cleaning products that are available on the market today. Care must be taken when using these products and users must follow the instructions.