



INSTRUMENT REPROCESSING STEPS

Follow the manufacturer's (devices, mechanical equipment, and chemicals) written instructions for use (IFU).

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| <p>POINT OF USE CLEANING Preparation for cleaning begins at the point of use</p> | <p>KEEP FREE OF GROSS SOIL during the procedure. Scrub person should remove gross soil by wiping the surfaces with a moistened sterile surgical sponge and periodically irrigate instruments with lumens.</p> |
| <p>TRANSPORTING USED INSTRUMENTS Immediately contain and transport to the decontamination area</p> | <p>KEEP INSTRUMENTS MOIST DURING TRANSPORT by adding a towel moistened with water or foam, spray, or gel product specifically intended for this use. CONTAIN CONTAMINATED ITEMS in a puncture-resistant, leakproof container marked as biohazard.</p> |
| <p>DECONTAMINATION Lower and limit bioburden before sterilization</p> | <p>PRESOAK using an enzymatic solution SORT AND DISASSEMBLE. Remove stylets and plugs. Disassemble if possible. CLEAN using appropriate detergent/concentration. BRUSH with appropriate brush, and flush lumens and cleaning ports. RINSE with copious amounts of water. Critical water used for the final rinse.</p> |
| <p>INSPECTION, ASSEMBLY AND PACKAGING Appropriately prepare devices for sterilization</p> | <p>INSPECT for cleanliness and proper working order. Verify surfaces lumens are clean. TEST insulation on electrosurgical instrumentation. DRY all instruments thoroughly. Verify silicone mats and the bases of the tray are dry. ASSEMBLE trays, unlock jointed instruments and place on stringer, place concave surfaces on edge, protect delicate and sharp items. Don't overload trays or containers. PACKAGE using appropriate wrap, peel pack, or rigid container. Include internal and external chemical indicator (CI), label contents, and initial.</p> |
| <p>STERILIZATION Select the correct sterilization parameters</p> | <p>STERILIZE according to written IFU (type, exposure and dry time, temperature, etc.). COOL packages to room temperature before handling. CHECK mechanical, chemical and biological monitors, and package integrity before releasing the load. IMPLANTS must have a BI and a type 5 CI run with the load.</p> |
| <p>STERILE STORAGE & TRANSPORTATION Maintain sterility of items until they are used</p> | <p>STORE STERILE ITEMS in closed or covered cabinets to reduce the potential for contamination. Do not stack heavy wrapped items. SHELF LIFE is event-related. Check package integrity and internal CI before use. TRANSPORT sterile trays and packages in a way that protects them (e.g. closed covered container or dust cover).</p> |

REFERENCES and RESOURCES:

1. ST79 - *Comprehensive guide to steam sterilization and sterility assurance in health care facilities*, ANSI/AAMI ST79:2010 & A1:2010 & A2:2011 & A3:2012 & A4:2013
2. *Guidelines for Cleaning and Care of Surgical Instruments*. In: *Guidelines for Perioperative Practices*. Denver, CO: AORN, Inc; 2017
3. *Guidelines for Sterilization*. In: *Guidelines for Perioperative Practices*. Denver, CO: AORN, Inc; 2017
4. *CDC Guidelines for Disinfection and Sterilization in Healthcare Facilities 2008*.

Provided by:



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