

REGULATORY COMPLIANCE OF SURGICAL INSTRUMENTS AND TRANSPORTATION

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1

Why Point-of-Use Cleaning and Care is Important

- Reduces Healthcare Acquired Infections
- Regulatory Standards
- Cost Savings



2

Point-of-Use Cleaning and Care

Point-of-use cleaning allows the instrument to remain free of blood and debris and inhibits biofilm or bioburden from building up on the instruments.

Biofilm can start to form within minutes, so instruments should be wiped off or rinsed with sterile water periodically throughout the procedure.

3

Point-of-Use Cleaning and Care

The decontamination process starts at "Point-of-Use"

When the provider is finished with the instrument(s), immediately wipe with a damp cloth, e.g. sponge, gauze, paper-towel, to remove visible bioburden
Use water only, saline will damage instruments

Spray instruments with an enzymatic spray to keep instruments moist and assists in the removal and break down of organic soils.



4

Enzymatic Spray

Instruments should not be transported to Sterile Processing in this condition



Spray before they are transported



5

WHAT IS BIOBURDEN?

Population of viable microorganisms on a product and/or a sterile barrier system.

NOTE—When measured, bioburden is expressed as the total count of bacterial and fungal colony-forming units (CFUs) per single item.



6

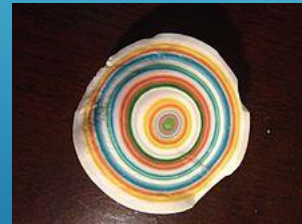
WHAT IS BIOFILM?

Accumulated biomass of bacteria and extracellular material that is tightly adhered to a surface.



Biofilm is like a Jaw breaker. It is created from bioburden. This only takes several minutes to form.

It creates many hard layers that are difficult to remove. It is not visible by the naked eye. It cannot be sterilized. If Biofilm is present on sterile instruments, it can chip off during surgery and potentially cause an HAI.



7

TRANSPORTING INSTRUMENTS TO STERILE PROCESSING

- Instruments must be completely enclosed
- Must be labeled Dirty/Biohazard
- Free of visible bioburden



8

TRANSPORTING INSTRUMENTS



9

Care and handling of surgical instruments is a shared responsibility between the operating room (OR) and sterile processing (SP) personnel.



10

Questions?



11

Thank you!

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12