

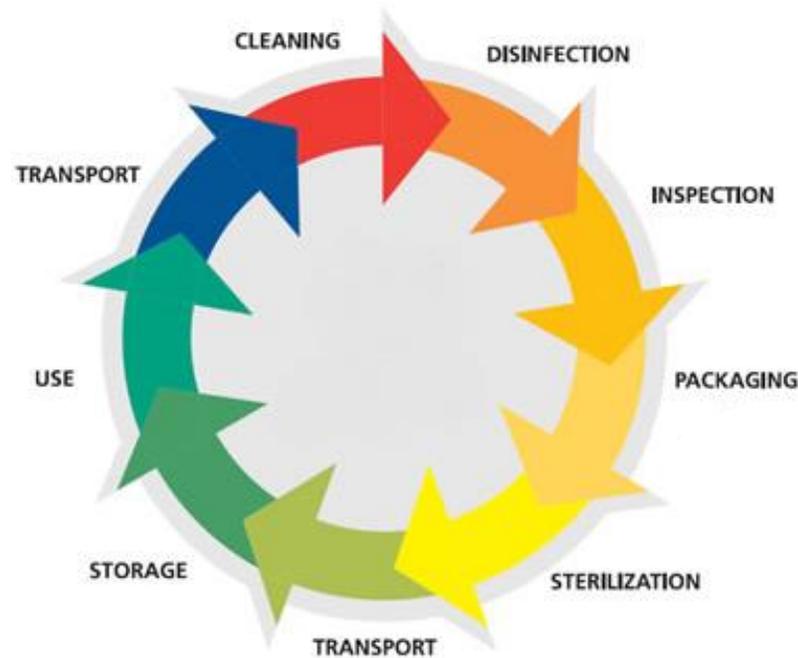
Basic concepts and standard in disinfection and sterilization of surgical instruments



PTY Ching
WHO CC
Hong Kong



The Central Sterile Supply Department (CSSD) is responsible for this series of tasks referred to as instrument reprocessing. It is a complex process driven by the needs of the operating rooms they support.



Therefore, hospitals are working to improve their CSSD to ensure safety and effectiveness.

Rationale

The processes of sterilization and decontamination are **complex**, require specific infrastructure and equipment and involve several steps that need to be correct, from devices collection, receipt by the unit, processing, storage and distributing them throughout the facility. Of utmost importance are also quality control procedures to assess the correct functioning of the equipment.

Guidelines and manuals are very important instrument to provide guidance to health managers and health workers on required infrastructures and standard procedures for effective sterilization, and decontamination reprocessing of medical devices.

Centralize and standardize



Best Practices for Cleaning, Disinfection and Sterilization of Medical Equipment/Instruments
In All Health Care Settings, 3rd edition

May 2013

Accessible version: <https://www.cdc.gov/infectioncontrol/guidelines/disinfection/>



Guideline for Disinfection and Sterilization in Healthcare Facilities, 2008

Update: May 2019

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ANSI/AAMI ST79:2017

& 2020 Amendments A1, A2, A3, A4 (Consolidated Text)

Comprehensive guide to steam sterilization and sterility assurance in health care facilities

American National Standard

Decontamination and Reprocessing of Medical Devices for Health-care Facilities



<http://www.who.int/infection-prevention/publications/decontamination/en/>



ASIA PACIFIC SOCIETY OF
INFECTION CONTROL

THE APUSIC GUIDELINES
FOR DISINFECTION AND STERILISATION OF INSTRUMENTS IN HEALTH
CARE FACILITIES

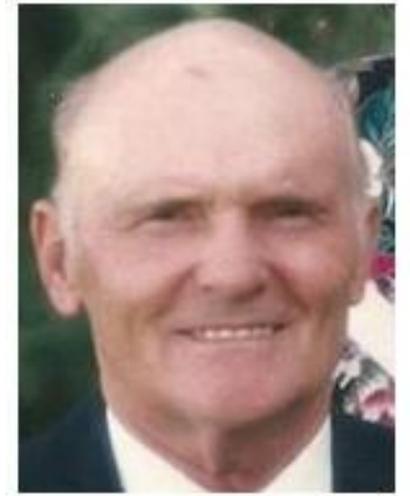
<http://apsic-apac.org/guidelines-and-resources/apsic-guidelines/>

Sterilization and decontamination of instruments and medical devices play a very important role in the prevention of HAIs.

Definitions

- **Cleaning:** removal of all soil from objects/surfaces
- **Decontamination:** removal of all pathogenic microorganisms from objects to ensure they are safe to handle
- **Disinfection:** elimination of many or all pathogenic organisms with the exception of bacterial spores
- **Sterilization:** complete elimination, destruction of all microbial life including spores

Spaulding Classification for Medical Devices



In 1972, Dr. Earl Spaulding developed a system for classifying medical instrumentation and equipment

- *Non-critical* – devices that touch intact skin, environmental surfaces – **LOW LEVEL DISINFECTION**
- *Semi-critical* – devices in contact with intact mucous membranes or skin that is not intact – **HIGH LEVEL DISINFECTION**
- *Critical* - (high risk) devices enter sterile tissue or bloodstream – **STERILIZATION**

Spaulding Classification for Medical Devices

Device classification	Examples	Spaulding process classification	EPA Product Classification
Critical (enters sterile tissue or vascular system)	Implants, scalpels, needles, other surg. Instruments	Sterilization- Steam sterilization, low temperature sporicidal chemical; prolonged contact	Sterilant/ disinfectant
Semi critical (touches mucous membranes)	Flexible endoscopes, laryngoscopes, ET tubes, vaginal specula	High level disinfection- sporicidal chemical; short contact	Sterilant/ disinfectant
Non critical (touches intact skin)	Stethoscopes, tabletops, bedrails, blood pressure cuffs	Low level disinfection	Hospital disinfectant without label claim for tuberculocidal activity

Decreasing Order of Resistance of Microorganisms to Disinfectants / Sterilization

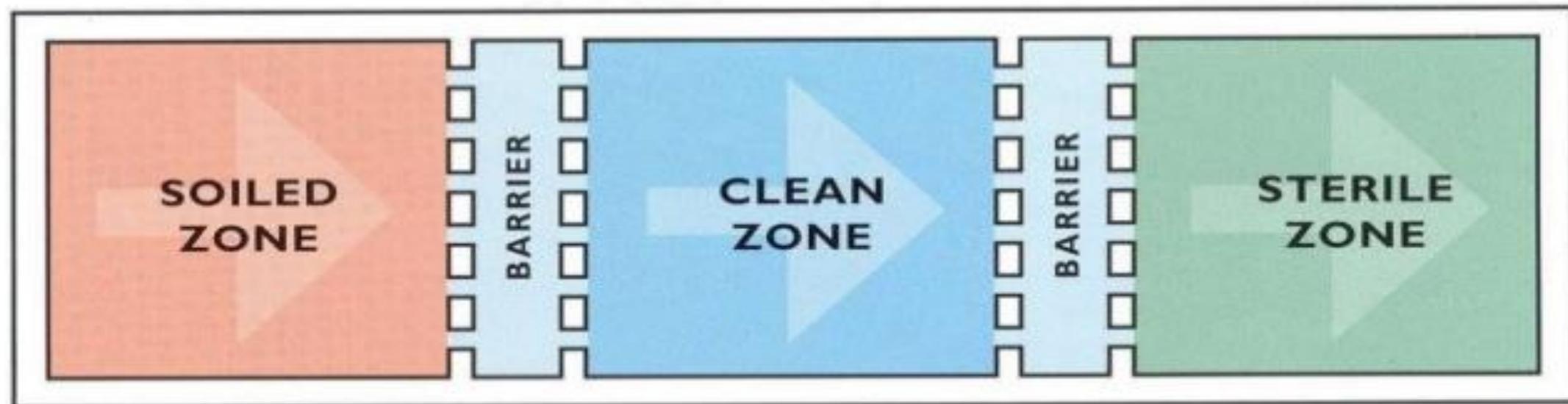
- 
- 1.Prions** - **CJD** Prion Rx
 - 2.Spores** - **Bacillus** Sterilization
 - 3.Mycobacteria** - **MTB/MAI** High
 - 4.Non-Enveloped Viruses - Polio, Coxsackie** Intermediate
 - 5.Fungi** - **Aspergillus, candida** Intermediate
 - 6.Bacteria** - **Staph.aureus, MRSA** Intermediate
 - 7.Enveloped Viruses- HIV, HBV, herpes, SARS CoV1 & 2** Low

Basic standards in reprocessing of surgical instruments in CSSD

1. Facility design
2. Handling, collection and transport of contaminated instruments
3. Cleaning and decontamination processes
4. Instrumentation inspection, preparation and packaging
5. Sterilization and monitoring
6. Sterile storage and distribution

Basic Design of CSSD

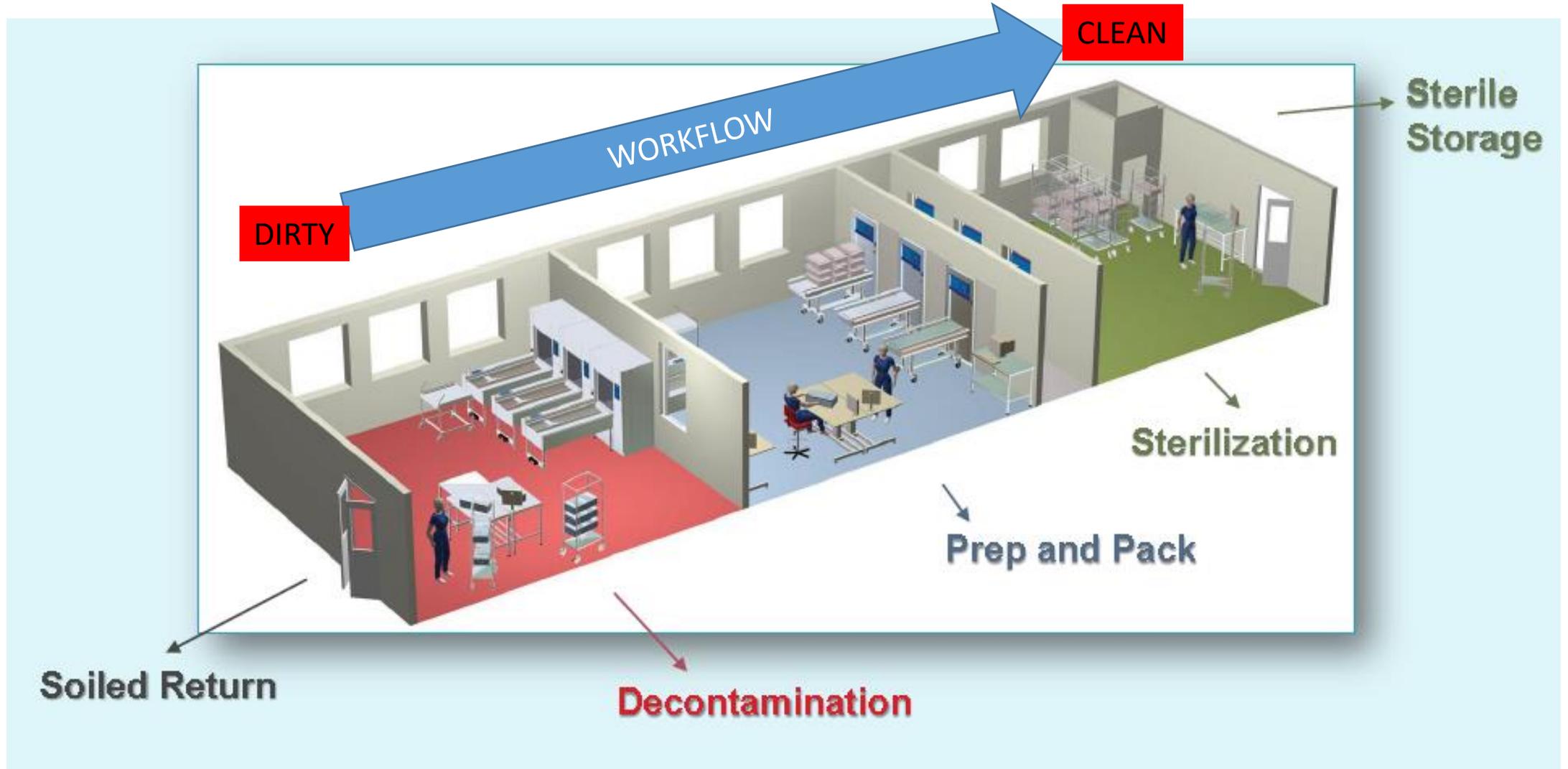
GENERAL CSSD DESIGN CONCEPT



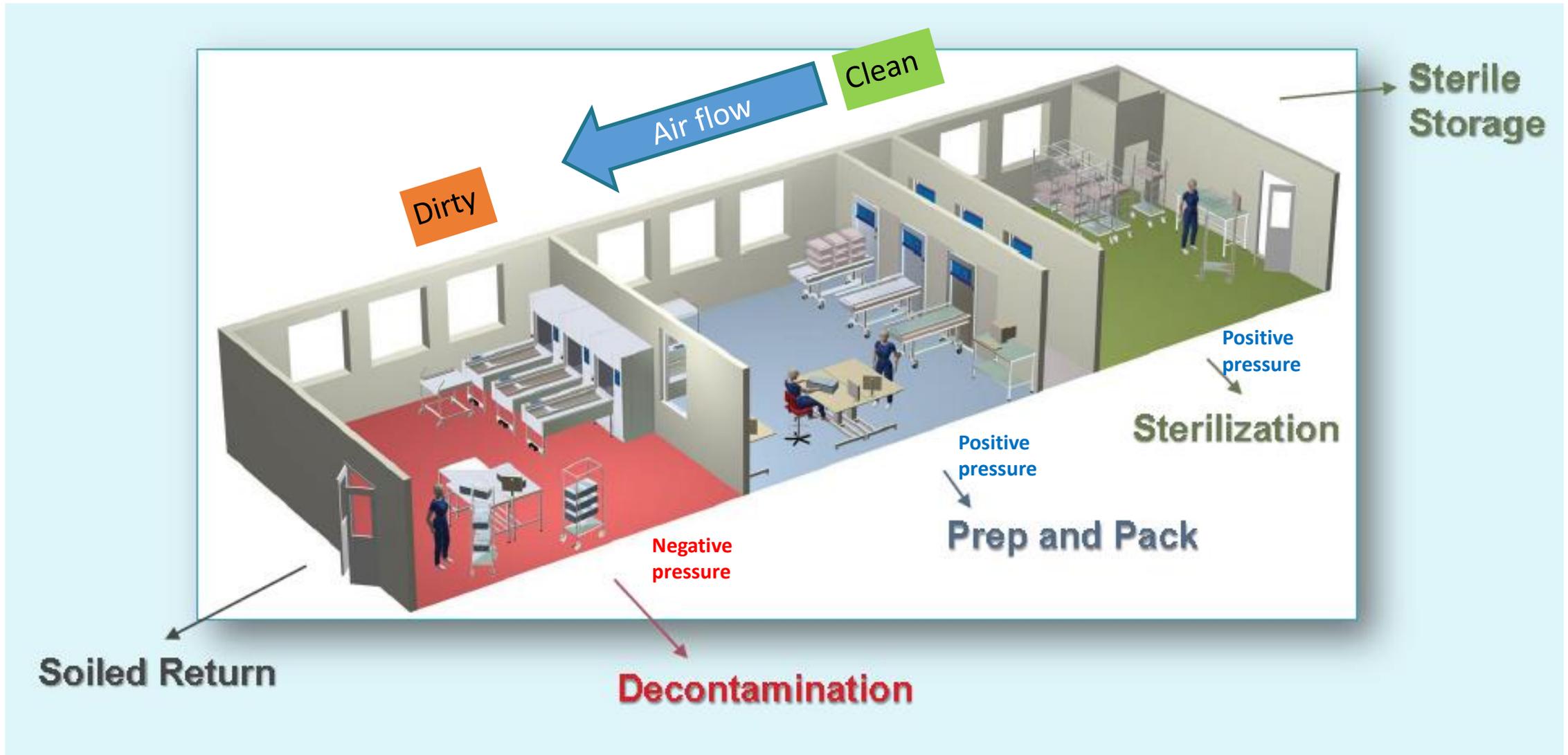
- Physical separation between soiled, clean and sterile zone
- The risk of cross-infection spread by staff is minimized



One Way Workflow of the Sterile Processing Department

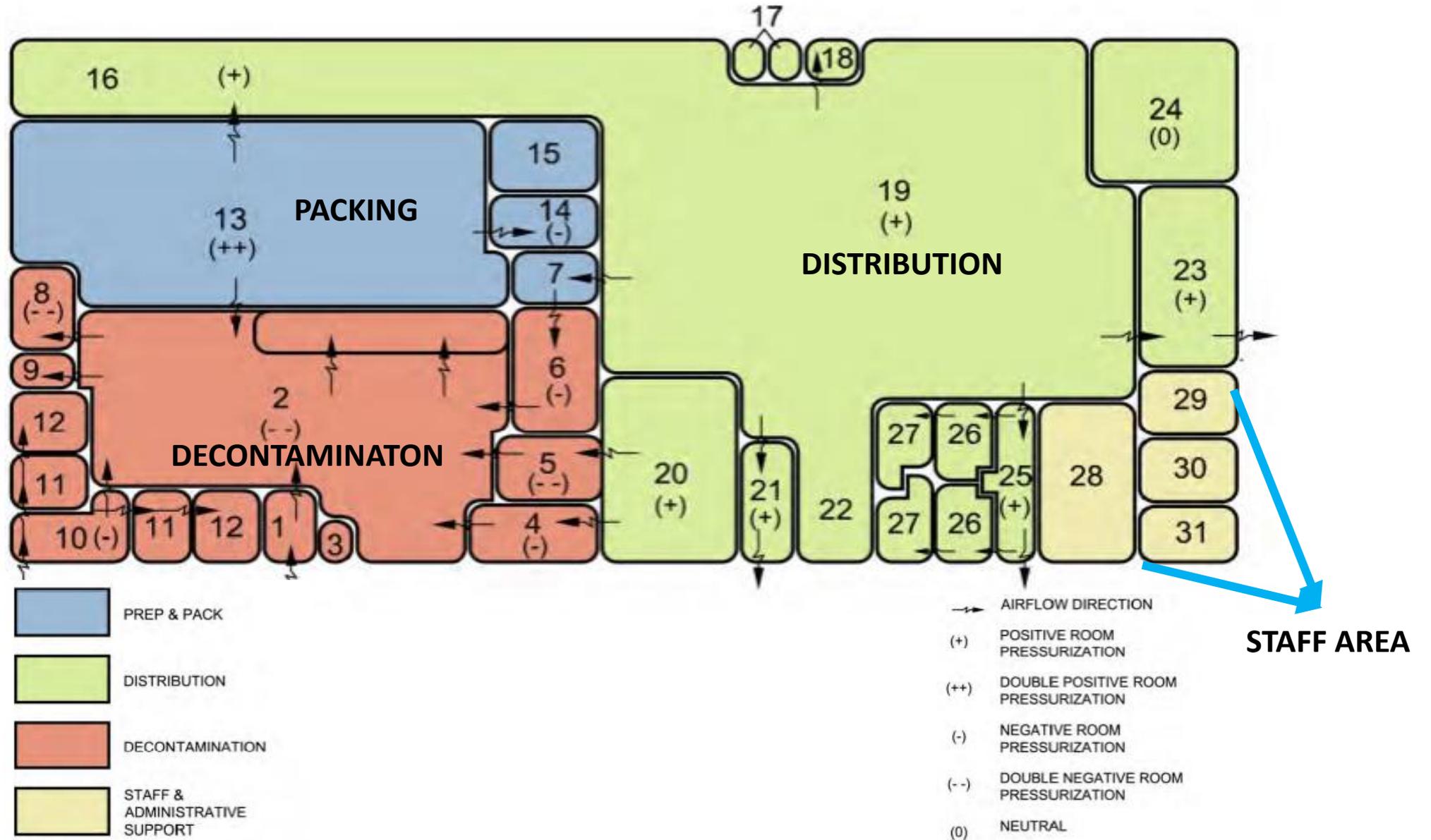


Airflow of the Sterile Processing Department



Relationship Diagram

Air Flow



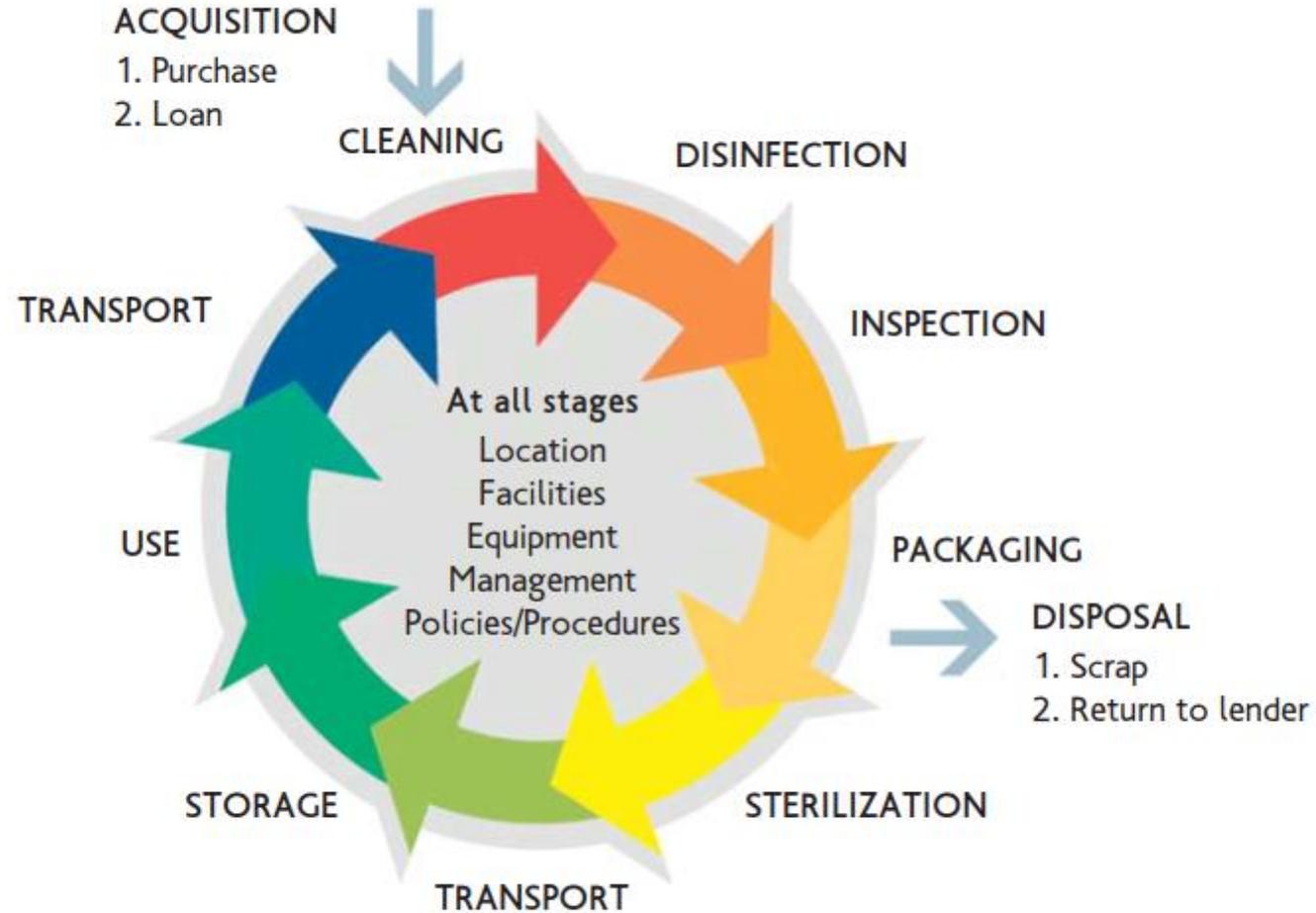
Surgical instruments should be handled centrally in the CSSD with standardized and validated reprocessing procedures

Decontamination and sterilization reprocessing

Concepts of cleaning, disinfection and
sterilization

Th

Figure 1. The decontamination life cycle



Source: Health Building Note 13 (HBN13), Department of Health, United Kingdom, 2004

Presoaking

Immediately in the OT

- Prevents soils & proteins from drying on the instruments
- Softens soils and assists with removal
- Prevents **biofilm** development
- Presoaking the instruments should ideally occur immediately following the procedure
- Sprays, foams, available

Transport of Instruments to CSPD



Pre-cleaning can begin

Spray-on solutions are typically enzyme formulations designed to break down blood soil and protein, as well as delay drying of organic soils

- **Clean followed by cover with wet towel**

Do you know what is biofilm.....



(Floating)

Biofilm is contrasted with planktonic bacteria, which are a community of microorganisms irreversibly attached to a surface, producing extracellular polymeric substances (EPS), exhibiting an altered phenotype.

Cleaning

- Defined as the physical removal of all visible soil, dust, and other foreign materials
- Effective cleaning will reduce microbial contamination on environmental surfaces & equipment
- Cleaning is the *first and most* important step before disinfection or sterilization can occur

Decontamination Area



Machine wash for general instruments



Manual wash for delicate & fine instruments



Correct PPE

Decontamination Cleaning & Drying



Automated Cleaning

- The washer disinfector renders its load (i.e. washed goods, surgical instruments, etc.) safe to handle
- Disinfection and cleaning of non-critical goods prevents hospital acquired infections
- Staff safety-cleaning process takes place in a closed chamber which means no risk for splashes and thereby contamination
- Correct drying after cleaning can easily be arranged and integrated into the process

Manual Cleaning

- No automated disinfection of instruments and utensils, increases the risk of contaminations and infections.
- Contamination risk for staff due to exposure to soil and liquids.
- Wet goods may cause re-contamination



Basic Design of CSSD

For basin, rigid
containers



DOUBLE DOOR WASHER DISINFECTORS



Clean and disinfect at least daily



IFU for special instrument
Instrument with small channel



Washer Disinfectors

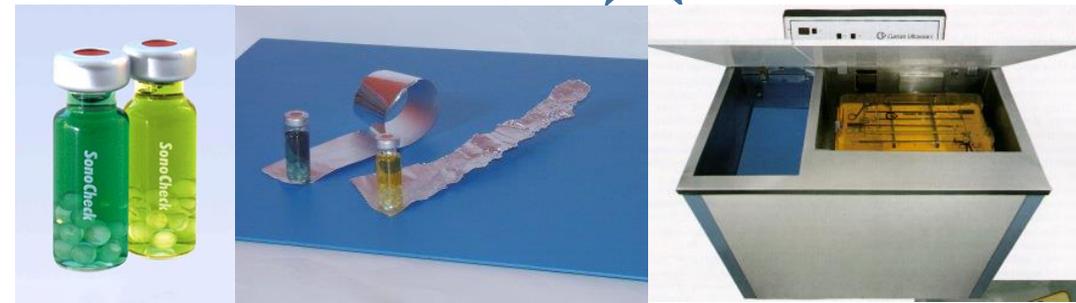
- Mechanically cleans instruments using a spray action called impingement
- Impingement is the water force making contact with the instrument
- Several cycle processes; final step is heated air drying
- Render instruments safe to handle
- Special test evaluate efficacy of cleaning
- Proper loading is critical (follow manufacturer's IFU) 



Ultrasonic Instrument Cleaning

- Effectiveness is based on cavitation: sonic waves generate minute bubbles on instrument surface
- Bubbles then expand, become unstable, then collapse or implode
- Implosion generates very localized vacuum areas that literally dislodges/sucks off the soil
- Use proper solution, change per manufacturer's instructions
- Must clean and maintain machine per manufacturer's instructions
- Change detergent regularly and when dirty

VALIDATION TEST



Factors in Effective Cleaning

- Water quality
- Acceptable washing method
- Cleaning agent
- Proper rinsing and drying
- Layout of the processing area
- Staff training

AORN Guidelines for Perioperative Practice. 2015, High-Level Disinfection, IV a.1. p 1DNIN4

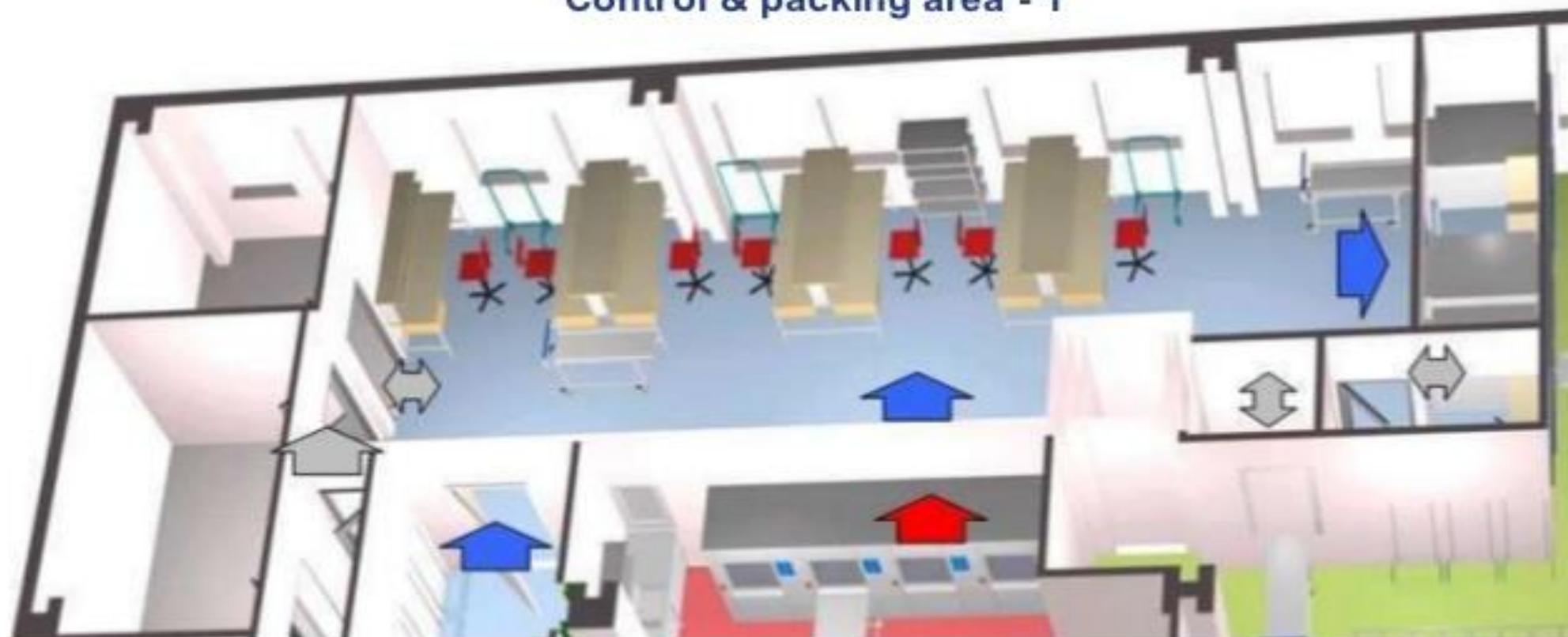


Inspection Prep and Pack



Basic Design of CSSD

TYPICAL CSSD DESIGN Control & packing area - 1



- A minimum distance of 1500mm between packing tables and minimum 900mm, side facing against a wall, as a good recommendation.
- Packing table located sideways from window avoiding light reflexes on instruments and work surface.

Prep and Pack

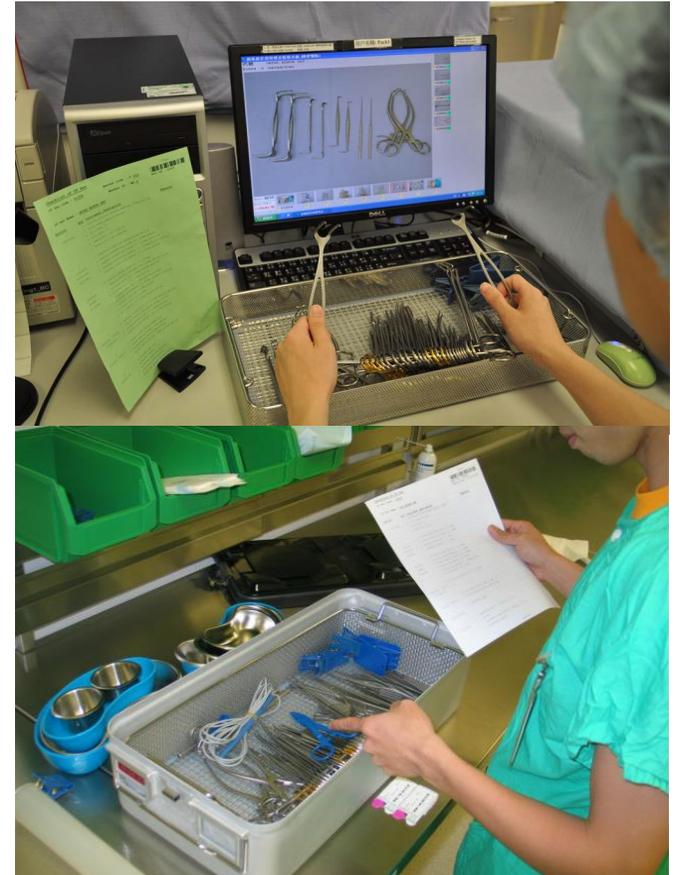
Preparation / inspection

Each instrument must be examined for :

- remaining soils
- functioning properly
- is it worn and needs to be replaced

Packing

- Instrument sets and trays are assembled, wrapped and placed correctly
- Catalogue and pull instruments
- Track and trace instruments and sets
- Verify the sterilizers performed their cycles correctly



BASIN SET – Quantity and Size



STERILIZE – Qty. 1 Item

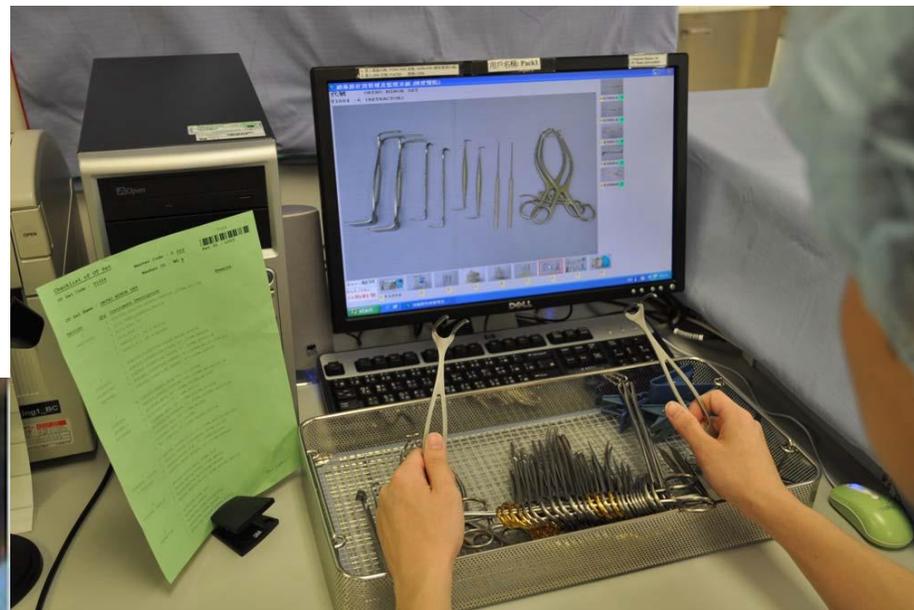


WASH – Qty. 7 Items



Separate by towels – from small to large

Checking before packaging – for instrument tracking



Different Packaging



Non-woven wrappers

- Hang for at least 2 hrs before use
- In 21-24 degree Celsius and humidity of 30-60%



Light box for checking integrity of linen wrappers and linen gowns and drapes



Tyvek Pouch – need internal indicator



Open joints ★



Internal chemical indicator ★
indicator

Sharp protectors ★



Chemical Indicator placed in the tray prior to sterilization

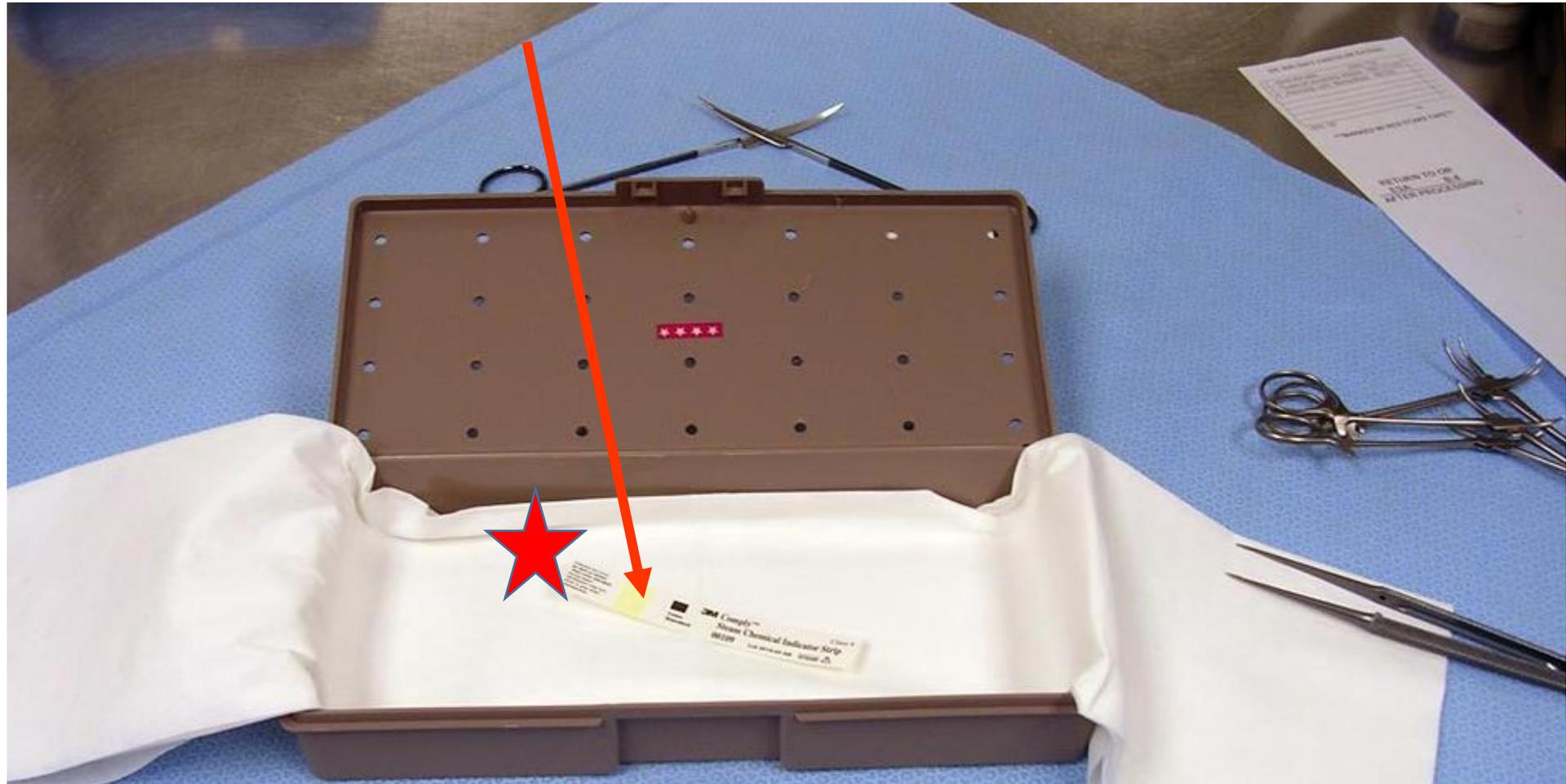


Figure 17. An example of the envelope wrapping method

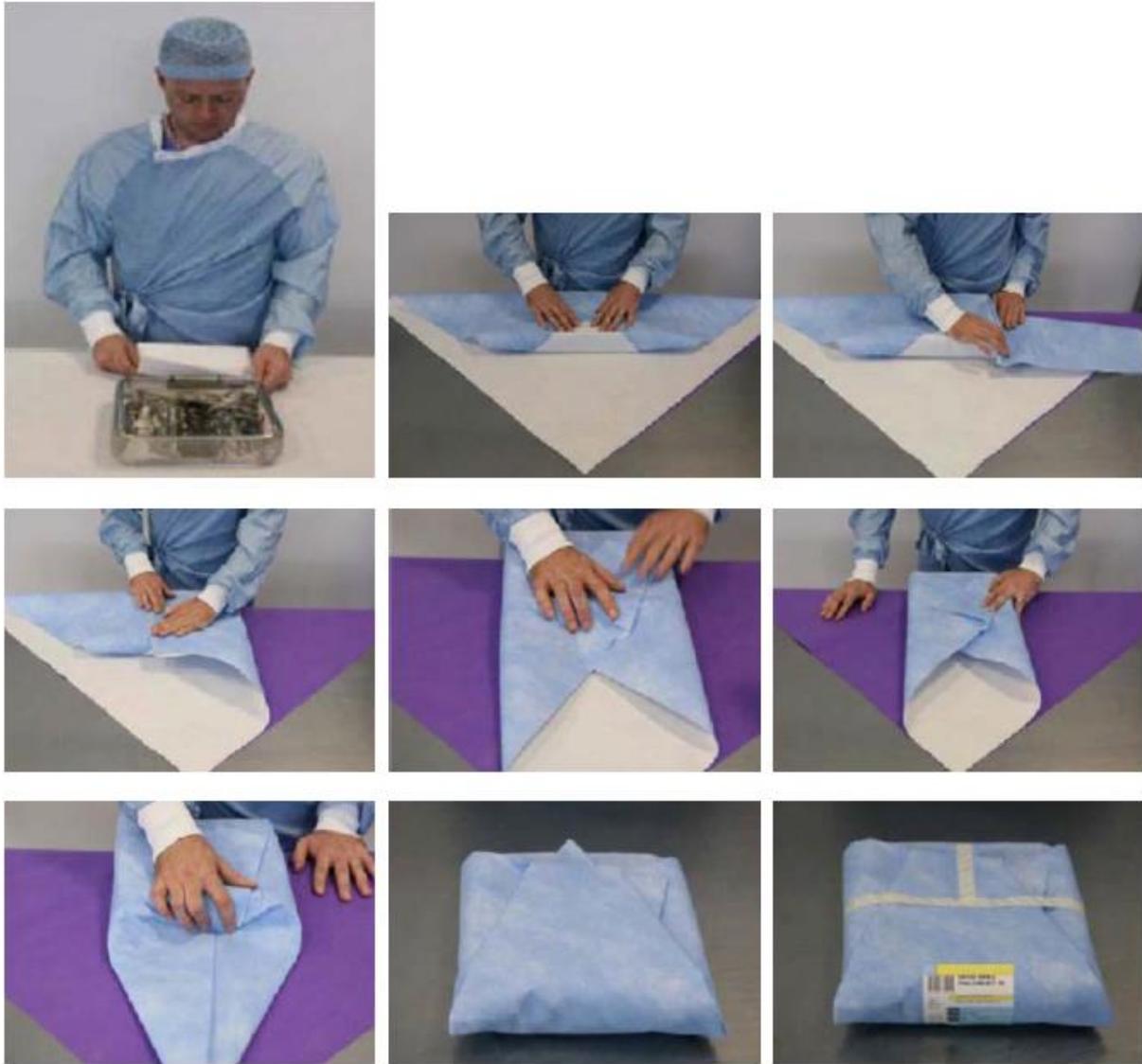
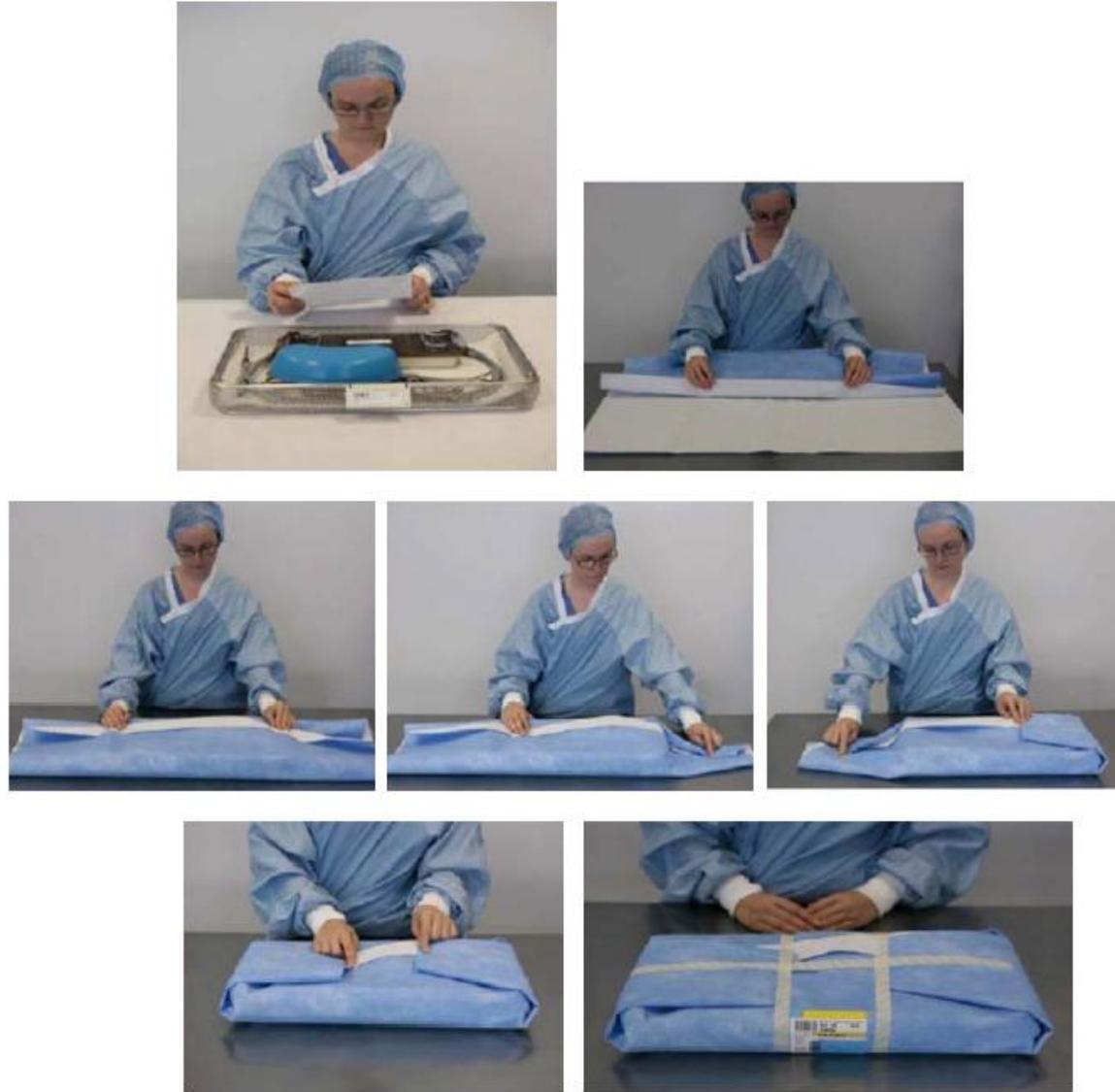


Figure 16. Example of the parcel fold wrapping method



Rigid Sterilization Containers

- Should be sized appropriately for the contained instruments (not too large, not too small)
- Lids need to be closed appropriately and should not be cracked, chipped, etc.
- Materials should be compatible with type of sterilizer chemicals in use



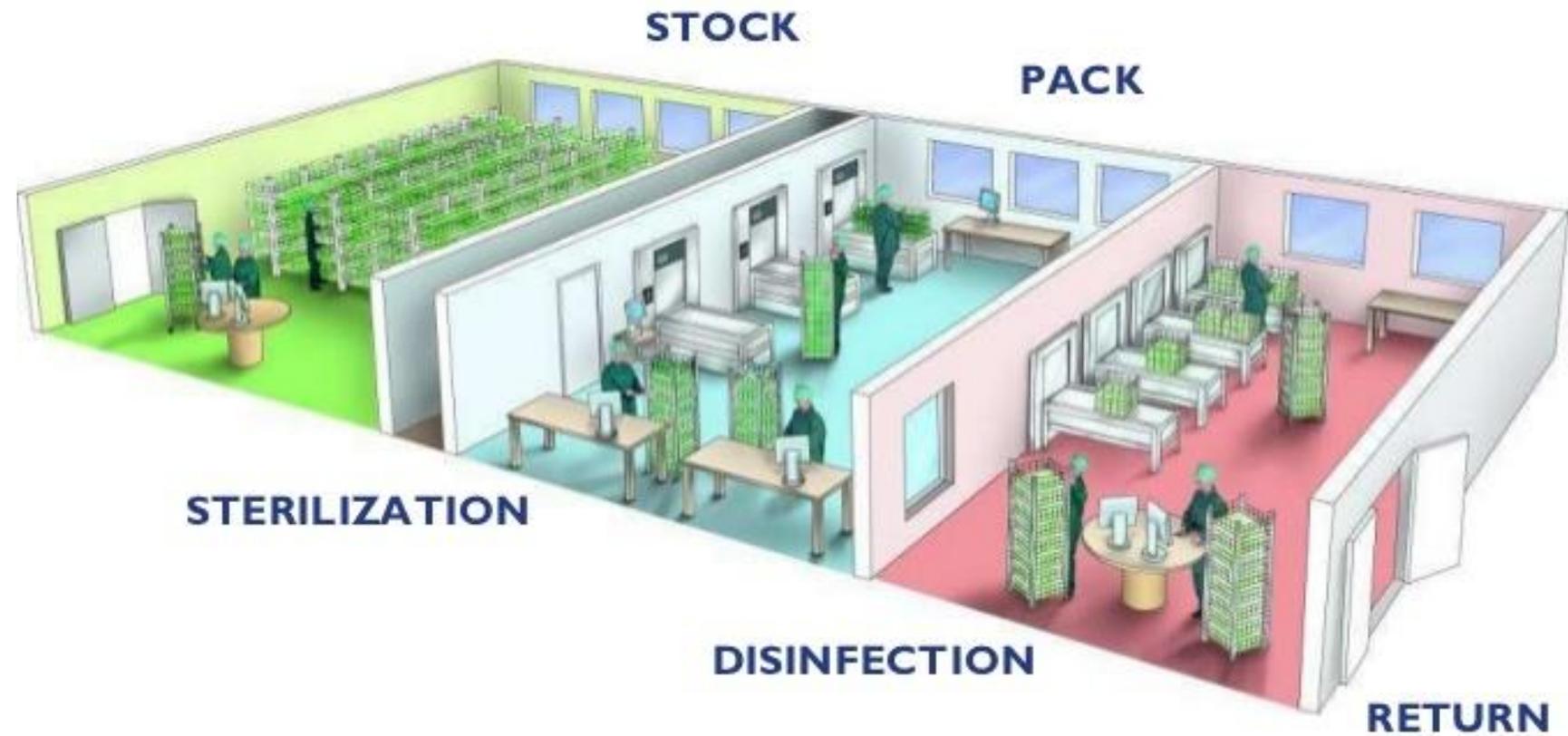
Sterilization

Sterilization is the process used to render a product free from all forms of viable micro-organisms (bacteria, spores, fungi, and viruses)



BASIC WORKFLOW IN THE CSSD

Planning of Hospital Infection Control System



Basic Design of CSSD

TYPICAL CSSD DESIGN

Sterile store - 2

- Open storage units, allowing good ventilation of stored goods as well as a good overview of the content.
- Inspection and recording of sterilized goods to have a tracing function!
- Assembly of goods according to received orders from user.



CAD illustration

Surgical instrument tracking

1. Efficient TSSU service
2. Accurate inventory control
3. Instrument tracking using bar code system
4. Sterility guaranteed
5. Facilitate recall e.g. CJD, sterilization failure

Instrument Tracking – in decontamination area

Premedication Form after use

Name of Patient : CHENG CHI HAN ID No. : Y544334

UT Set(s) Required (Please affix Bar Code Label to below provided space) : UP ID : 005530

No.	Set ID	UT Set Code / Description	Affix UT Set Bar Code Label
1.	1007 0A29	T1004 ORTHOPAEDIC MINOR SET	
2.	4043 0B24	T2005 CONTACT AIR MACHINE	
3.	W00010 0007	T4005 LCP 3.5 INSTRUMENT SET	
4.	W00032 030202	T4021 K-WIRE FIXATION SET	
5.	7301 0001	T3013 CORLESS DRIVER II	

7301 Corless Driver II

SIS barcode label was stuck onto the Pre-medication form



Scan barcode of SIS ID operation ID into Tracking System

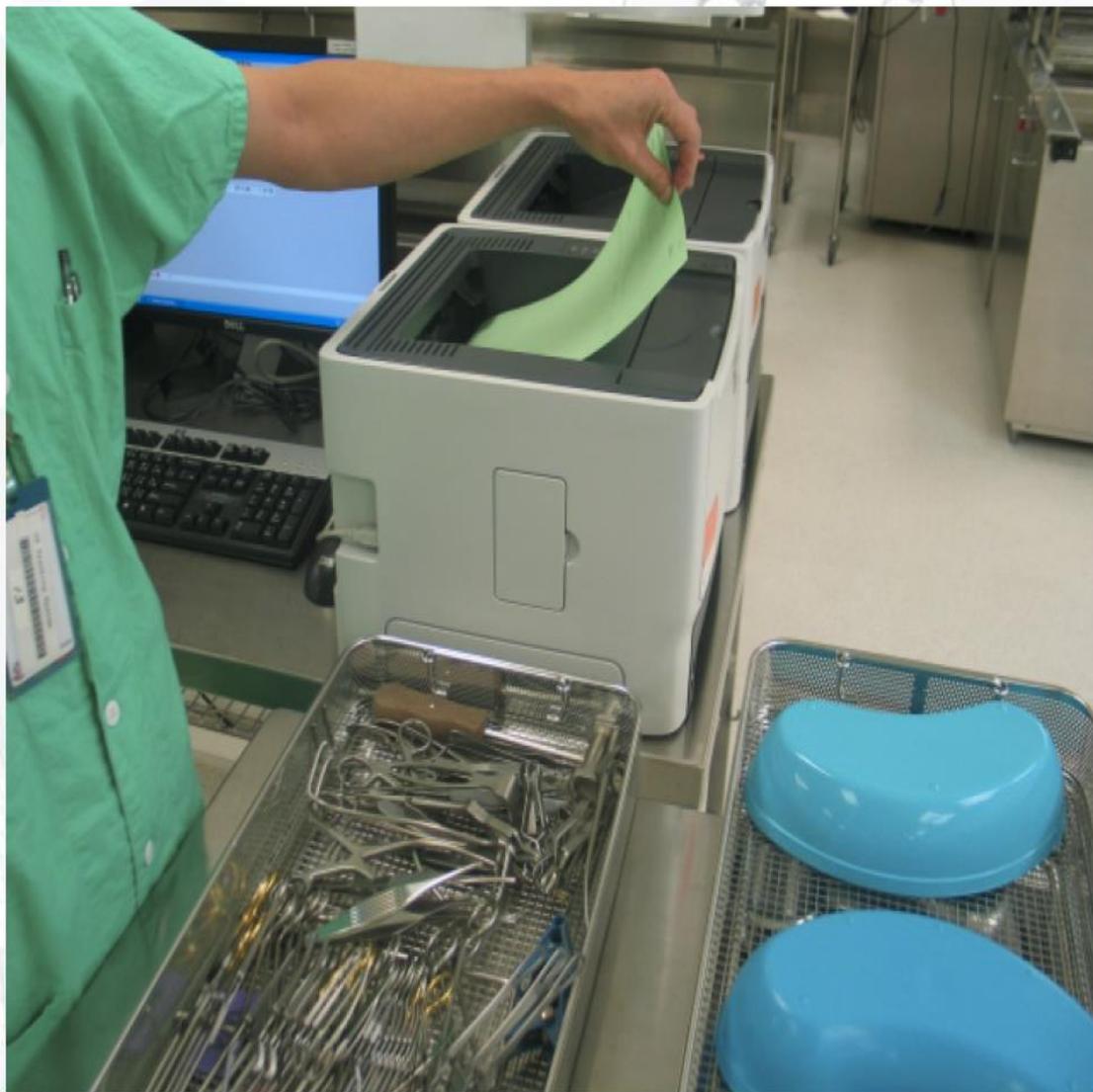


Machine wash for general instruments



Manual wash for delicate fine instruments

Packing & Assembly Area



Printing a checklist for Inspection & Assembly

Sterilization Area



After sterilization, the barcode label is scanned

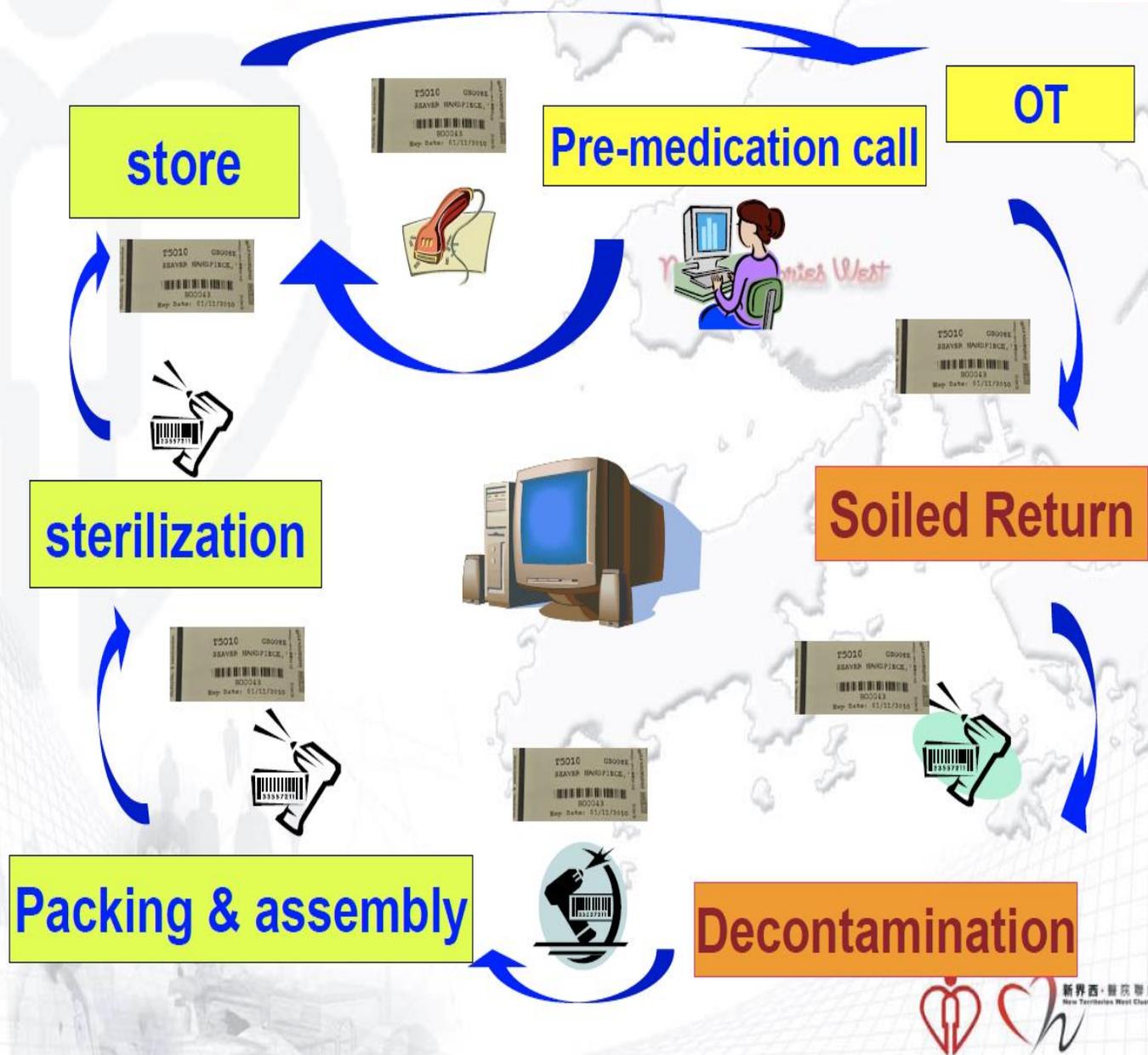


Sterile Store



OT instruments are stored in its designated location of rack in Sterile Store

Tracking SIS throughout its Workflow



Importance of the Manufacturer's Validated Instructions for Use (IFU)

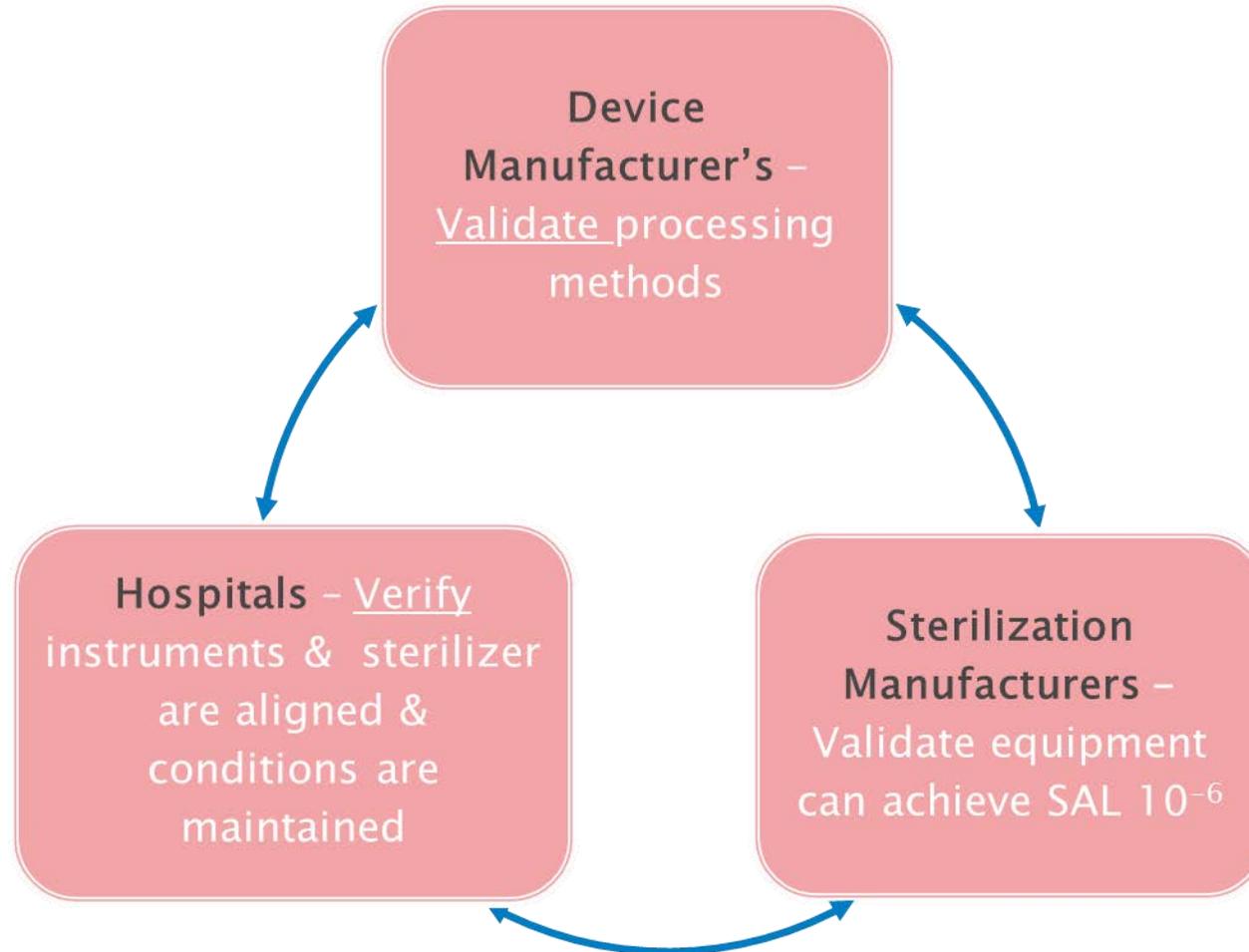
Manufacturer's instructions are essential to quality systems procedure development

The increasing complexity of medical devices and the introduction of new materials can make it more difficult to clean and sterilize medical devices or to gauge the success of these activities.

Written confirmation that the reprocessing instructions have been validated must be obtained from the device manufacturer

Validation of Medical Device Sterilization

Roles & Responsibilities

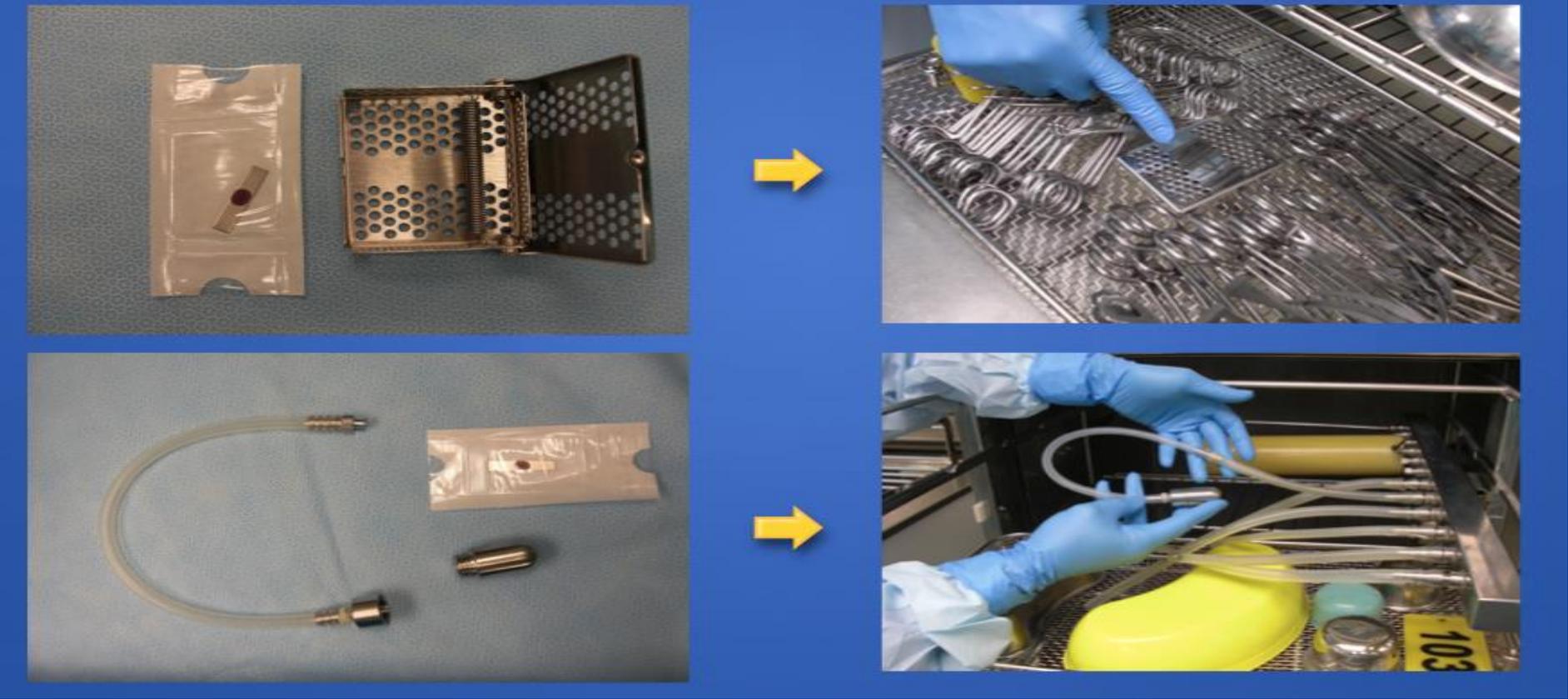


Manufacturer's IFU (examples)

Device	Method	Parameters
Spine Sets	Gravity Prevacuum	Not recommended 270°F for 10 min. <i>(Does not recommend flash)</i>
Spine Sets	Gravity Prevacuum	Not recommended 270°F for 15 min.
Hand Instruments	Gravity Prevacuum	270°F for 20 min. 270°F for 10 min.
Power Drive	Gravity Prevacuum	Not recommended 270° - 275°F for 24 min.
Ortho Complex Sets	Gravity Prevacuum	270°F for 28 min. 270°F for 10 min.

The importance of Quality Control Procedures

Daily Cleaning Efficacy

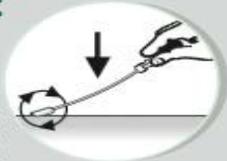


Rapid Audit Tools: Manual Cleaning

Easy to Use:

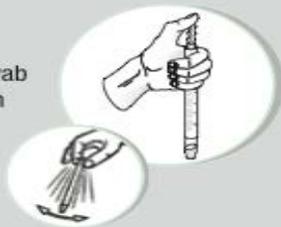
1 SWAB

Swab surface firmly. If the surface is dry, wet the swab with the moisturizer supplied in the kit.



2 CLICK

Activate the swab and shake from side to side for 5 seconds.



3 READ

Leave the swab upright at room temperature for 10 minutes. Read the result.



4 INTERPRET RESULTS

Clean



Dirty



1 Add four drops of moisturiser (water and ethanol, supplied) to the swab (avoiding protein



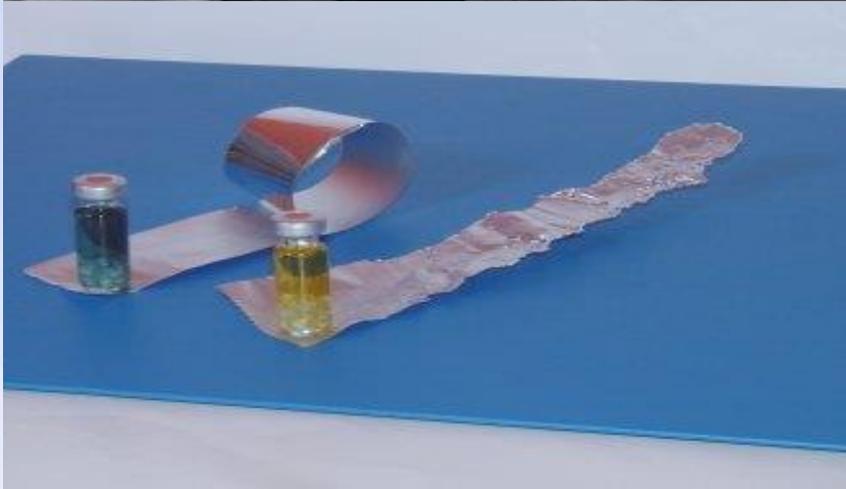
2 Insert the swab back into the tube and push down to activate the test. Shake rapidly from



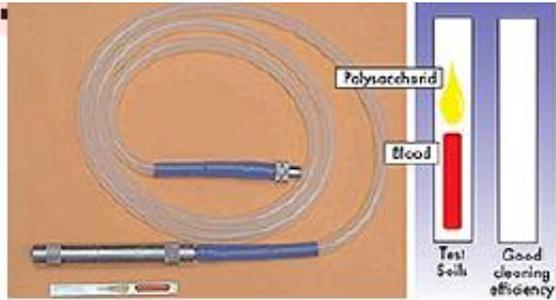
3M Clean Trace



Ultrasound



Cleaning Monitors for Automated Washers



Flexi check: Endoscope lumen



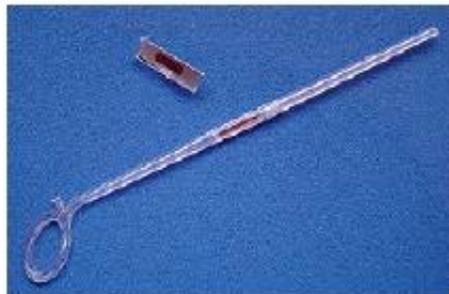
TOSI Lumchek



Enzymatic Detergent test



Steritec Wash-Checks



Medisafe Lumen check: Laparoscopic device lumen



TOSI



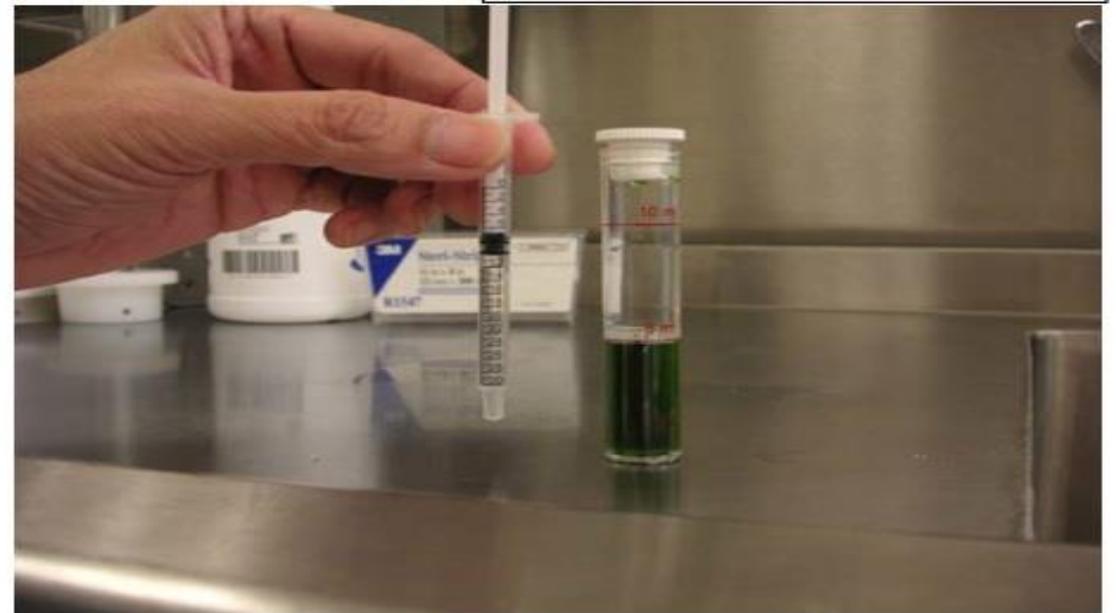
Sono check



STF Load check

Water Quality

- Conductivity
- Measure the total amount of dissolved solid (TDS) in water
- Unit – milli Siemens / cm
- $<0.03\text{mS/cm}$
- Hardness Measure the amount of Calcium Carbonate in water
- $<50\text{mg/L}$



Water Quality

- Effect of hard water – corrosion

- Chloride
- $<10\text{m}$



Quality check for pouch packs

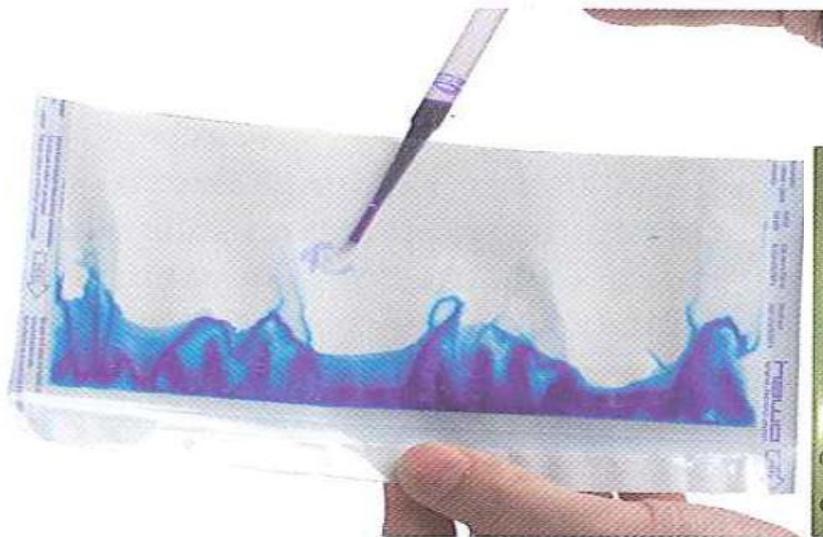


Fig. 1: Add the test dye penetrant to a sealed pouch or reel



Fig. 2: Channels or defects can be localize using the dye penetrant (here: gusseted pouch, test with hawo InkTest)



Fig. 3: Perfect seal seam (here: gusseted pouch sealed using hawo sealing device, test with hawo InkTest)

Verification of Steam Autoclave



Quality Assurance

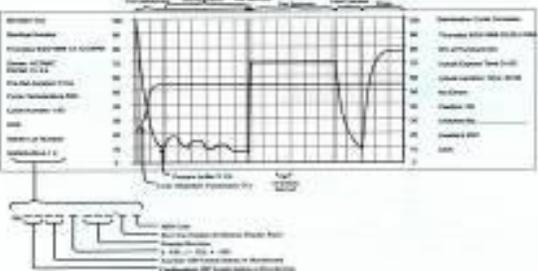
Monitoring of the sterilization cycle

Monitoring of each sterilization machine and every cycle is essential to ensure sterility of the reprocessed medical devices. The available means of monitoring are as follows:

- Physical (notebook, displays and printouts)
- Chemical (internal and external indicators)
- Biological

Physical Indicators

e.g. printouts:



Chemical indicators



Bowie Dick Tests
:Daily

Biological Indicators

: Daily; weekly
Implant Every Load



Chemical Indicators & Tapes:
: Every Pack,
rigid container



Steam Sterilization Monitoring

Steam Sterilizer

Physical Indicators –
printouts



Bowie Dick Tests



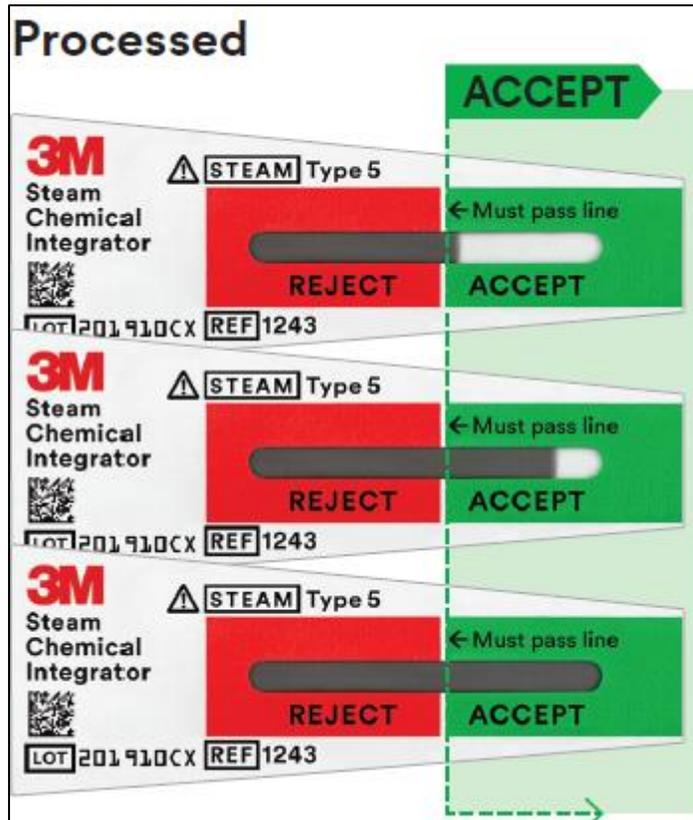
Biological Indicator



Chemical Indicators & Tapes: Every Pack



Provide visual confirmation of exposure to sterilization process



To verify that the sterilant has reached the center of the tray as recommended by the Association for the Advancement of Medical Instrumentation (AAMI)

Biological Monitoring



- Steam *Geobacillus stearothermophilus*
- Dry heat *B.atrophaeus* (formerly *B.subtilis*)
- EO *B.atrophaeus*
- New low temperature sterilisation technologies
 - Plasma sterilisation (Sterrad) *B.atrophaeus*
 - Peracetic acid - *Geobacillus stearothermophilus*

Storage of Clean/Sterile Supplies

- Store at least
 - 8-10" from the floor
 - 5" from ceiling but 18" from sprinkler head
 - 2" from outside walls
- Use solid bottom shelf
- Use closed cabinets
- Avoid overfilled drawers
- **NO RUBBER BANDS!**



Sterile Storage

- Sterilized items should be properly stored to prevent contamination
- Need segregated area
 - Temperature 24°C Humidity should not exceed 70%
 - 4 air exchanges/hour -positive pressure
- Monitor and document daily



Basic standards in reprocessing of surgical instruments

1. Facility design
2. Handling, collection and transport of contaminated instruments
3. Cleaning and decontamination processes
4. Instrumentation inspection, preparation and packaging
5. Sterilization and monitoring
6. Sterile storage and distribution

References

- CDC Guidelines for Sterilization & Disinfection in Healthcare Settings, 2008
- AORN Guidelines for Perioperative Practice, 2015.
 - www.aorn.org
- CDC HICPAC Guidelines of Healthcare Facilities
 - [www. Cdc.gov/hicpac/pubs.html](http://www.Cdc.gov/hicpac/pubs.html)
- The APSIC Guidelines for Disinfection and Sterilisation of Instruments in Health Care Facilities
 - <http://apsic-apac.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/APSIC-Sterilization-guidelines-2017.pdf>



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