


Name of Policy:	Biological Spore Test for Steris System 1 Processor	 <p>Effective Date: September 9, 1996</p>
Policy Number:	3364-139-6-22	
Department:	Sterile Processing	
Approving Officer:	Operations Supervisor, Sterile Processing	
Responsible Agent:	Operations Supervisor, Sterile Processing	
Scope:	The University of Toledo Medical Center Sterile Processing Department	
<input type="checkbox"/> New policy proposal <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision of existing policy		<input type="checkbox"/> Minor/technical revision of existing policy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reaffirmation of existing policy

(A) Policy Statement

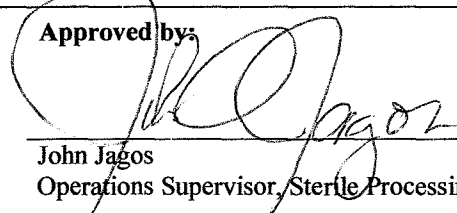
1. In the O.R., a biological spore test will be run on the Steris System I Processors DAILY in the early AM.
2. In the OPS, a biological spore test will be run on the Steris System I Processor Sunday through Thursday in the late afternoon.

(B) Purpose of Policy

To verify the effectiveness of the sterilization process.

(C) Procedure

1. Apply clean gloves.
2. Peel open glassine envelope, exposing spore strip.
3. Place spore strip in clip in center of instrument rack in general processing container. Place lid on container. NOTE: The spore strip must not touch the rack.
4. Add STERIS 20 sterilant to processor. Close lid and press START.
5. At cycle completion open lid then apply sterile gloves.
6. Touching only the clip, place spore strip in tube of culture media. (Spore strip must be completely immersed.)
7. Close cap, Label and place tube in incubator.
8. Place an unprocessed spore strip in culture media tube to act as a control. Growth will be evident within 12-18 hours of incubation characterized by a color change from purple to yellow.
9. Incubate culture media for 24 hours at 60+/- 2°C.
10. Record results in the recording notebook located with each unit. Place the sterilizer printout in the record envelope.
11. If a test shows positive, repeat test procedure placing several indicators throughout the sterilizer. If the second test shows positive, place a "do not operate" sign on the unit and contact Biomedical Engineering.
12. Culture media showing positive results may be discarded in a red sharps container
13. If a positive Biological is encountered, refer to policy #3364-139-6-10 "Positive Culture and Recall of Hospital Items."

<p>Approved by:  _____ John Jagos Operations Supervisor, Sterile Processing</p> <p><i>Review/Revision Completed By:</i> <i>Operations Supervisor, Sterile Processing</i></p>	<p>Review/Revision Date: 1996 2002 2005 2006 5/2007</p>
<p>Next Review Date: May 1, 2010</p>	

Policies Superseded by This Policy: SP-6-21 Biological Spore Test Steris System I Processor

It is the responsibility of the reader to verify with the responsible agent that this is the most current version of the policy.