


<b>Name of Policy:</b>	<u>Operation of Steam Sterilizers in SPD</u>	 <p>THE UNIVERSITY OF <b>TOLEDO</b> 1872</p> <p>Effective Date: August 25, 2010 Initial Effective Date: July 12, 2005</p>
<b>Policy Number:</b>	3364-139-6-33	
<b>Department:</b>	Sterile Processing	
<b>Approving Officer:</b>	Associate Vice President Associate Executive Director	
<b>Responsible Agent:</b>	Operations Supervisor, Sterile Processing	
<b>Scope:</b>	The University of Toledo Medical Center Sterile Processing Department	
<input type="checkbox"/> New policy proposal	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor/technical revision of existing policy	
<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision of existing policy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reaffirmation of existing policy	

**(A) Policy Statement**

Whenever possible, steam sterilization will be used to sterilize surgical instrumentation. The steam sterilization processes will be in adherence to AAMI Standards ST 79:2006.

**(B) Purpose of Policy**

To assure an appropriate hierarchy of sterilization methods providing effective sterilization for surgical instruments.

**(C) Procedure**

**I. STERILIZER OPERATION**

*Include a BI test pack in every load. See "BI PROCESS" BELOW.*

1. Inspect packaging:
  - a. Arrows are on Genesis containers.
  - b. Peel pouches are correctly sealed.
  - c. Wrapped Instruments are properly wrapped.
  
2. Sticker: **(Julian Date, Sterilizer #, Load #, Calendar Date)**
  - a. All items going into the sterilizer cycle.
  - b. Contents Sheet.
  - c. Record Envelope.
  - d. Sterilizer cycle printout. **(Initial top of tape.)**
  - e. Place sticker on BI Reminder Sheet.)
  
3. Pick sterilizer and scan appropriate barcode.
 

<u>STEAM STERILIZERS</u>	<u>STERRAD STERILIZERS</u>
1-#8103	Sterrad 1-#8102
2-#8104	Sterrad 2-#8118
3-#8105	
4-#8119	
  
4. Scan the following bar codes:
  - a. Scan "OPEN LOAD" #9001
  - b. Scan Biological barcode # 1107700
  - c. Scan Integrator Test Pack Bar code #1284000
  - d. Scan items (Use "S" pattern) (Watch for duplications.)
  - e. Non-scan able items must be entered into the "COMMENT" section when you close the load.
  
5. Scan "Close load" barcode # 9002.  
 At AT THIS TIME - Enter all non scan-able items or comments in the comment section.

6. Print out contents sheet.
7. Verify that items on sterilizer cart match exactly what is listed on the contents sheet. Correct any errors.
  - a. Count scanned items and non-scanned items.
  - b. Enter total plus your initials in designated area.
8. Load sterilizer cart into sterilizer using caution.
9. Choose load type and press Start:
  - a. 10 Minutes at 270°F (135°C)
  - b. 40 Minutes at 250°F (121°C) Liquid Cycle.
  - c. 60 Minutes at 250°F (121°C) Neuro Cycle #2.
10. Sterilizer tape will print at beginning of load **(Don't forget to initial top of tape.)**
11. Attach Contents Sheet to sterilizer cart handle.
12. Begin to fill out Sterilization Record Envelope in correct book.  
(Time, Temperature, Operator's Initials and Sticker.) *See BI process below for additional entries.*
13. When load is complete:
  - a. Unlock door 1" & allow residual steam to vent, (approximately 10 seconds).
  - b. While steam is venting, verify that sterilization parameters were met. **(Don't forget to initial bottom of tape.)**
  - c. Open door and remove Biological and chemical test packs. Process both according to procedure.
  - d. Close door for 5 minutes.
  - e. Open door 1" for 10 minutes.
  - f. Open door 2" for 10 minutes.
  - g. Open door completely for 10 minutes.
14. Remove load:
  - a. Verify tape color changes on packages.
  - b. Arrow color changes on Genesis Trays.
15. When the load is cool to the touch:
  - a. The load may now be transferred to the Instrument delivery cart.

## II. RELEASE TO DELIVERY CART

- Scan the OR Instrument Delivery cart **1-8107, 2-8108, 3-8109** or the OPS delivery cart **8123** bar code.
- Scan **OPEN STERILIZER LOAD-9001.**
- Scan all sets and items on Sterilization Cart.
- Physically move all scanned items to delivery cart.
- Scan **CLOSE STERILIZER LOAD-9002.**

## III. RELEASE TO O.R. or OPS.

- Scan **OR-6026** or **OPS-6133.**
- Scan **RELEASE STERILIZER LOAD-9030.**
- Select the instrument cart and click **"RELEASE."**
- Print out 1 instrument cart sheet. Verify count and contents. Write in count and initial both sheets. Place one sheet on the cart and one in the record book.

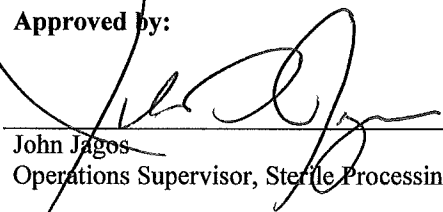

#### IV. BI / INTEGRATOR PROCESS

Insure that a new CONTROL BI has been activated and placed in an incubator. Write a "C" on the cap. Write the lot number at the top of the current day's Steam Sterilizer Record Keeping Envelope.

#### **BOTH A BI TEST PACK AND AN INTEGRATOR TEST PACK MUST BE RUN WITH EVERY LOAD:**

1. Obtain a BI Test Pack and an Integrator Test Pack.
2. Check the Lot # of BI test pack to assure that it matches the Control lot #.
3. Place the BI test pack on bottom shelf, front of cart (Nearest to drain). Place the Integrator Test Pack next to it.
4. Fill out Sterilizer Envelope:
  - a. Pick the appropriate sterilizer record book.
  - b. Select the next load number. This must match the next load number in the SPM system.
  - c. Under "Load Contents" enter the appropriate description.  
*Examples: Implant, Liquids, etc.*
5. Enter exposure time in minutes.
6. Enter cycle temperature in Fahrenheit. i.e.: 250° F or 270° F.
7. Run the load.
8. When load is complete:
  - a. Remove BI and Integrator Test packs from sterilizer.
  - b. Open Integrator Test Pack and, remove Integrator.
  - c. If Integrator Passed, Circle "Integrator PASS" on envelope
  - d. Tape integrator to SPM Load Printout.
  - e. If Integrator Failed: Load must be torn down, rewrapped and resterilized.
  - f. Tape failed integrator to SPM Load Printout and detail the teardown procedure.
  - g. Wearing exam gloves, open BI pack and allow open pack to cool for 10 minutes. After 10 minutes remove BI from pack, remove spring from BI and place BI on towel. Allow to cool an additional 5 minutes.
  - h. After 5 minutes, close cap by squeezing BI holding top and bottom.
  - i. Crush BI in incubator (1 time-back and forth).
  - j. Tap the BI on the counter vigorously to insure that the liquid mixes in the cotton.
  - k. Visually check the BI to assure that the cotton has turned purple.
  - l. Place the BI in an open incubator well.
9. Fill out the BI Reminder sheet IMMEDIATELY. Make sure reminder sheet is kept next to incubator.
10. On Envelope:
  - a. Enter Incubator # and Well # under "Test" and Enter Incubator # and Control Well # under "Control."
  - b. Enter date (dd/mm/yy) and time (AM/PM) **IN INCUBATOR.**
  - c. Enter your Initials if you are putting BI in incubator.

11. After 3 hours, incubator should automatically indicate a "negative" reading on the BI. If at any time the incubator alarms and indicates a "positive" reading, immediately implement policy # SP6-10 Positive BI.
12. If the incubator and BI read "negative", enter the data in the BI reminder sheet and enter the following info on the Envelope:
  - a. Enter date (dd/mm/yy) time (AM/PM) OUT of incubator.
  - b. Initials of person reading and removing BI.
  - c. Under "Test Result" If auto reader alarms, enter + under "Test BI Results" and begin load recall process according to policy # SP 3364-139-6-09.
13. If auto reader indicates negative, enter - under "Test BI Results". Implants may be released at this time. **If implants are requested prior to auto reader indicating negative, make sure that the yellow light is on, release instruments to OR and log in "Implant Log Book".**
14. At this time, read control and enter + or - under.
15. "Control BI Results." Results should be positive. If CONTROL is negative, contact the supervisor on duty or On-Call.
16. Remove BI from incubator and place in disposal bin.

<p><b>Approved by:</b></p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: flex-start;"> <div style="width: 45%;">   <hr/>           John Jagos            Operations Supervisor, Sterile Processing         </div> <div style="width: 45%; text-align: center;"> <p>8/26/10 Date</p> </div> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: flex-start; margin-top: 10px;"> <div style="width: 45%;">   <hr/>           Norma Tomlinson, RN, MSN, NE-BC, FACHE            Associate Vice President            Associate Executive Director         </div> <div style="width: 45%; text-align: center;"> <p>8/31/10 Date</p> </div> </div> <p><i>Review/Revision Completed By:</i>  <i>Operations Supervisor, Sterile Processing</i></p>	<p><b>Review/Revision Date:</b>          2006          2007          8/25/2010</p>
<p><b>Next Review Date:</b> August 1, 2013</p>	
<p><b>Policies Superseded by This Policy:</b> SP-6-33</p>	