

THE UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO MEDICAL CENTER STERILE PROCESSING DEPARTMENT PROCEDURE

**SUBJECT: BIOLOGICAL SPORE TEST FOR
GAS PLASMA STERILIZERS (STERRAD)**

PROCEDURE NO: SP3-9

PROCEDURE STATEMENT

The Sterile Processing Department will perform a Biological test on the STERRAD sterilizers each morning.

PURPOSE OF PROCEDURE

To challenge the efficiency of the sterilizer to attain a maximum level of sterility assurance.

PROCEDURE

1. Each box of BI test vials contain 30 vials of test media. One vial is to be used as the control each day for the two sterilizers.
2. Biological testing is to be done with the first cycle run after midnight in each sterilizer.
3. Remove 3 vials from box, label 1 vial C on top for control. Press top of vial down, crush and place in incubator for control.
4. Prepare test packs with the other 2 vials; place each vial inside paper/plastic peel pouch, place number of sterilizer on test packs.
5. Enter all pertinent information in the SPM computer system.
6. Place the Bio-test pack on the bottom shelf near the back of the sterilizer.
7. Run load cycle.
8. Upon completion of cycle, remove processed pack. Crush vials and place in the designated incubator.
9. If the cycle cancels, the BI test pack should be discarded and a new pack used when starting the next cycle.
10. Rewrap and resterilize any other items were processed in the cancelled cycle.
11. If a true positive result is observed repeat the biological test procedure on a second vial that has been processed in the sterilizer. If a positive result is again obtained, have the sterilizer checked by Bio-med personnel. Follow the item recall procedure.
12. Use one control vial of the same Lot # per day for two sterilizers.
13. Read and Record results at 24hrs.
14. Scan the cycle printout and enter Biological test information and results in the computerized sterilization management system.

Reviewed/Revised

1996 1998 1999 2002 2005 2007 2009

2010 1/2014