

# THE UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO MEDICAL CENTER STERILE PROCESSING DEPARTMENT PROCEDURE

**SUBJECT: BIOLOGICAL SPORE TESTING FOR  
IMPLANTS, O.R. STERILIZATION**

**PROCEDURE NO: SP7-3**

## **PROCEDURE STATEMENT**

A Biological Indicator (**BI**) will be run with all implants being sterilized in the O.R.

## **PURPOSE OF PROCEDURE**

To ensure that sterility is attained for all implants sterilized within the O.R.

## **PROCEDURE**

1. Before starting a Steam sterilizer a BI must be prepared. The current date and sterilizer load number must be written on BI label.
2. A patient addressograph label must be placed on a blank BI Record form. The form must be filled out appropriately.
3. Place the biological indicator in the within the instrument tray to be sterilized along with a Chemical Indicator (**CI**).
4. Run the cycle.
5. When the cycle is complete transport the sterilized instruments to the surgical suite using OR towels or heavy mittens. Open the tray and remove the BI and take it to the incubator located in the processing room in the OR. ***Be sure to print out an extra sterilizer tape to place on the OR BI Record Form.***
  - Cut a patient addressograph label with the patient's name to size and place it on the BI.
  - Place the BI into the next available slot in the appropriate steam incubator.
6. Fill out the OR BI Record form with the information required. Place a Patient addressograph label on the OR BI Record Form and place the form in the designated binder in the processing room.
7. The BI must be read at 1 hour. Enter the results into the BI record form. If a positive is noted on any biological, follow the recall procedure, notifying the SPD Supervisor, Infection Control and the SPD Manager or SPD on-call supervisor. Recall all items that were processed if possible. If the reading is negative, discard the BI.

## **References**

1. ANSI/AAMI ST79:2010 & A1:2010 & A2:2011 & A3:2012 *Comprehensive guide to steam sterilization and sterility assurance in healthcare facilities*. Section 10.7.4  
Association of perioperative Registered Nurses. *Perioperative Standards and Recommended Practices, 2013 Edition*. Recommended Practices for Sterilization, Recommendations VII and XX.
2. SP Procedure SP 7-6 Immediate Use Sterilization in the OR.

Reviewed/Revised  
2007, 2010, 2014  
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