Name of Policy: Cidex OPA Solution Test Strips
Policy Number: 3364-135-028
Department: Radiology
Approving Officer: Chief Executive Officer - UTMC
Responsible Agent: Interim Chairman & Professor, Radiology
Scope: Radiology

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(A) Policy statement

It is imperative to use Cidex OPA test strips in order to assure the accurate concentration levels of the Cidex OPA solution.

(B) Purpose of policy

Quality control procedures will be performed to test positive and negative controls of Cidex OPA test strips with each newly opened bottle. OPA strips are to be used to provide a means of testing concentration levels of ortho-phthaldehyde in Cidex OPA solution.

(C) Quality Control Procedure

1. Note the date that the Cidex OPA strips bottle was opened and an expiration date 90 days from the opening date in the spaces provided on the bottle.

2. Precautions: Do not leave the test strip bottle open for more than 30 minutes. Keep cap closed tightly. Store bottle at controlled room temperature of 15-30 degrees C (59-86 degrees F) and in a dry place. Do not use after 90 days of opening the bottle or bottle expiration date.

3. To prepare the positive and negative control solutions for testing, first verify the expiration date for the Cidex OPA solution is appropriate. This solution may be used as a positive control. To prepare the negative control, dilute one part of the full strength solution with one part of water. Label each control solution appropriately.

4. Following the directions for use, submerge three test strips in each of the above solutions for one second each. Remove. The three strips dipped in the diluted negative control
should either remain completely blue or exhibit color change to purple when read at 90 seconds.

(E) Testing Cidex OPA soaking solution concentration levels

1. Obtain test strip and submerge in solution for 1 second and remove.
2. Remove excess solution by standing the strip upright on a paper towel. Do not shake strip after removal.
3. Read results 90 seconds after test strip is removed from the solution. Do not read the pad after 2 minutes. Follow strip color chart on the bottle.
4. Record results in logbook.
5. If reading is not at the highest level, discard the soaking solution.
6. Discard the Cidex OPA soaking solution after 14 days.