


<b>Name of Policy:</b> <u>Food and drink in work areas</u> <b>Policy Number:</b> 3364-139-4-01  <b>Department:</b> Sterile Processing  <b>Approving Officer:</b> Chief Nursing Officer  <b>Responsible Agent:</b> Operations Manager, Sterile Processing  <b>Scope:</b> The University of Toledo Medical Center Sterile Processing Department	  Effective Date: August 1, 2023  Initial Effective Date: January 22, 2009
<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**

Eating and drinking within work areas of Sterile Processing is strictly Prohibited. The areas affected include the SSC Main Storeroom, Decontamination, and the Infectious Waste Room.

The OSHA Blood borne Pathogen Standard CFR 1910.1030(d)(2) prohibits *food and drink* in areas where contamination is likely. Break and eating locations should be separate and distinct from work locations.

**(B) Purpose of Policy**

This policy protects the employees from contamination of their food, and protects the work environment from unnecessary contamination of food.

**(C) Procedure**

A designated employee break room is provided within the department where food and drink may be consumed. Employees who violate this policy will be disciplined in accordance with hospital policy.

<b>Approved by:</b>		<b>Review/Revision Date:</b>
/s/	8/15/2023	1998 2002 2005
Christopher Lehnert Operations Supervisor, Sterile Processing	Date	2007 2010 1/14/2014 3/1/2017 2/20/2020 8/15/2023
/s/		
Kurt Kless Chief Nursing Officer	Date	
<i>Review/Revision Completed By: Operations Supervisor, Sterile Processing</i>		<b>Next Review Date: 8/1/2026</b>
<b>Policies Superseded by This Policy:</b>		

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