

STERILE PROCESSING PROCEDURE DECONTAMINATION

Procedure SP2-7: Daily test for washer/disinfectors



Policy Number Superseded:

Responsibility: Operations Manager,
Sterile Processing

Effective Date:
December 2025

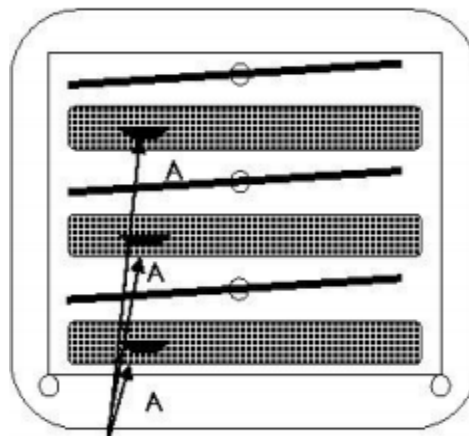
Purpose of Procedure: To challenge the cleaning
efficacy of mechanical cleaning equipment and
proteolytic detergent.

Initial Effective Date:
October 10, 2018

Procedure:

The *CHALLENGE* test will be run in all washer/disinfectors daily at the beginning of the 3rd shift.

- (A) Secure one *CHALLENGE* device in the designated holder on each shelf of every washer/disinfector as shown below.



*Location A - Multi-Level Rack
Place one (1) TOSI® on each level. Arrange
so that TOSI® is in the center of the radius
of the spinner arm.*

- (B) Process using the instrument wash cycle.

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- (C) Examine the device for visual cleanliness. Compare the test to the interpretation chart, scale (0-5).
- (D) Record results IN SPM or on ECOLAB device when made available.
- (E) If less than optimal results were obtained (1-5), refer to the interpretation chart as a guide and **TAKE THE CORRECTIVE ACTION PRESCRIBED ON THE CHART.**
- (F) Typical failures can be caused by:
 - (1) Clogged spinner arms.
 - (2) Worn spray arm bushings.
 - (3) Insufficient detergent due to empty containers.
 - (4) Detergent pump failure or clogged delivery tubing.
 - (5) Poorly functioning water pump.
 - (6) Incorrect water temperature.
- (G) If using a TOSI.

Ghosting on the TOSI® Plate: A whitish stain is observed on the TOSI® plate, which can be confused with fibrin protein remaining on the TOSI®. This usually happens at a facility that has hard water. If allowed to dry and the TOSI® is read at that point, hard water staining may be observed on the TOSI® plate. The simplest method is to gently submerge the TOSI® plate in a bath of water. If the stain “disappears” when wetted, this indicates a non-test soil residue (likely hard water minerals or detergent) and not the blood soil.
- (H) Record all changes and adjustments to the washer according to the results found from the test.
- (I) Repeat test up to 2 times after checking the appropriate areas of the washer.
- (J) If the test fails shut down washer and call biomed.
- (K) Ref: ANSI/AAMI-ST 79:2017

Approved by:
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Operations Supervisor, Sterile Processing

Initial effective date:
October 10, 2018

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Review/Revision Completed by:
Operations Supervisor, Sterile Processing

Review/Revision Date:
January 2020
October 18, 2023
December 2025

Next review date:
December 2028