

# THE UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO MEDICAL CENTER STERILE PROCESSING DEPARTMENT PROCEDURE

**SUBJECT: OPERATION OF GAS PLASMA STERILIZER  
(STERRAD)**

**PROCEDURE NO: SP3-10**

## **PROCEDURE STATEMENT**

The Sterile Processing Department will operate the Hydrogen Peroxide Plasma Sterilizer STERRAD in a manner optimizing the effectiveness of the sterilization process while maintaining maximum personal safety.

## **PURPOSE OF PROCEDURE**

To provide an effective rapid low temperature sterilization to allow optimum utilization of medical devices requiring low temperature sterilization.

## **PROCEDURE**

### **Run biological test pack every morning.**

1. Before operating sterilizer check the following:
  - a. Cassette in place
  - b. Adequate recording paper
2. Pick sterilizer and scan appropriate barcode.  
STERRAD STERILIZERS
  - a. **Sterrad 5**
  - b. **Sterrad 6**
3. Scan the following bar codes:
  - a. Scan **“OPEN LOAD”**
  - b. Scan items (Watch for duplications.)
  - c. Scan **“Close load” barcode**
4. Press “open door” on display panel.
5. Load racks with goods to be hydrogen peroxide plasma sterilized.
6. Load racks so that no package is touching one another or the chamber walls. Peel pouches may be placed flat or in upright racks. When placing in upright racks, pouches are to be arranged Tyvek to Mylar configuration.
7. Press “start” on display panel.
8. When cycle is complete a beeping sound will be heard. The recording tape logs the sterilizer settings and will dispense at end of cycle. Optically scan the tape into the computer. Each cycle time is approximately 48 minutes.
9. Press “open door”
10. Remove sterilized goods.
11. Place sterilizer load control label on each package.  
Place stickers on the following: **(Julian Date, Sterilizer #, Load #, Calendar Date)**  
All items sterilized.
12. Optically scan the tape and enter cycle data into the computer.
13. Dispense goods to appropriate area.

Reviewed/Revised 1995 1996 2002 2005 2007 2009, 2010, 2014, 2018, 1/2020

