

## The RINJ Foundation

### **POLICY & PROCEDURE: CLEANING, DISINFECTION, STERILIZATION AND STORING OF INSTRUMENTS**

NOTE: All instruments opened, used or not are considered to be contaminated.

PREPARATION: Eye protection/goggles, mask, heavy duty rubber gloves and apron must be worn when handling and cleaning instruments.

Instruments used for surgery must be placed in the Blue water filled container in the O.R. sink.

Transfer the container with the instruments to the Laundry /Dirty Utility room for processing.

Instruments and other items must be dismantled (if required) before cleaning.

### **CLEANING & SOAKING**

1. Remove and place the instruments opened /disassembled in another container to soak in an Asepti-Zyme Solution (*3 pumps to ½ gallon of H<sub>2</sub>O*) for 10-15 min. Soak it for additional 5 minutes for HIV, Hepatitis patient.
2. After soaking, wash instruments and other items to remove all foreign materials using a scrub brush and anti-bacterial detergent. Avoid using abrasive materials that can scratch or potentially ruin the instruments. Carefully brush the grooves, teeth and joints where there is a potential collection/stick of material.  
  
Note: For Canulas / hollow instruments use the canula brush and flush with a 20-60cc syringe.
3. Rinse thoroughly with water to remove all the solution and detergent. Inspect the instruments/items to confirm they are totally cleaned.
4. Place instruments/items (except Canulas/hollow instruments) in a container for lubrication for 5 minutes. Use V. Mueller Instrument Lubricant; make sure to follow the manufacturers' direction.

5. After lubrication process, transfer instruments/items in a tray /container and put them to Clean Utility / Sterilization Room. Lay them out on a clean towel to dry / you may pat dry instruments to speed up the process.

## **DISINFECTION**

For selection of disinfectant, the level of disinfection required is determined according to level of contamination likely to be present.

## **STERILIZATION**

Sterilization is achieved by complete destruction/killing of all microorganisms including bacterial spores. The clinic uses Steam Sterilization (Autoclaving), using the Tuttnauer Sterilizer, where directions are closely followed.

6. Next separate the instruments /products into individual /surgical sets ie delicate/sharp, -- BA / Lipo and wrap accordingly / to manufacturer instructions.

## **CHEMICAL INDICATORS:**

\* Use the tape lines that change color , when the intended temperature has been reached.

\*Uses Indicator Strips that show that the intended combination of temperature,time and pressure has been achieved.

## **GUIDELINES:**

\* PEEL PACK ( DOUBLE ) , Use the QUALA ,PRO ADVANTAGE , and or the VIEW Sterilization Pouches , insert a sterile indicator strip for each peel pack /instruments that would be ready for autoclaving.

\* WRAPPED ITEMS are sterile as long as there is no contaminating event that occurs.It should be stored in a closed , dry ,cabinet with moderate temperature and low humidity.Make sure that the wrapped items are dry and intact before using them( inspection before the beginning of surgery or when doing daily routines.) DO NOT USE IF IN DOUBT, \*\* RE STERILIZE \*\*

( SEE STEPS FOR WRAPPING ITEMS ON BINDER /WALL POST )

\* UNWRAPPED ITEMS are to be used immediately after removal from the autoclave. Applicable only if there is shortage of instrument or when an instrument was contaminated or dropped.

( LABEL ACCURATELY WITH CONTENTS TOGETHER WITH THE PROCESSING DATE AND THE EXPIRATION DATE )

(STORE WRAPPED MATERIALS IN STORAGE CABINET/SHELVES )

**( STERILIZATION TIME IS 30 MINUTES , WRAPPED AND OR UNWRAPPED )**

1. Next separate the instruments /products into individual /surgical sets ie delicate/sharp, -- BA / Lipo and wrap accordingly / to manufacturer instructions.

**\*Note ~ All instruments MUST be package opened/dissembled, with steam indictor inside, double wrapped, with the date and Sx ID ie BA written on the outside for sterilization. \***

2. The only product that doesn't require a steam indicator / needs to be double wrapped are Laryngeal Mask Ap (**LMA's**)
3. Finally, place packages in the Autoclave to be steam sterilize for 30min./ according to manufacturer guidelines.
4. Remove when finish, ck for color change on the steam indicator (*blue to black*) and store in a clean dry place.