STERIS UNIVERSITY

SPD, It's Time to Shift Gears Back to Elective Procedures

Now that elective procedures are resuming, it is important to ensure Sterile Processing Departments are ready to support the OR schedule.

Evaluating equipment prior to a restart can help prevent delays and make sure things run smoothly.

Please use this document to help guide you through some things to check prior to restart. Always refer to manufacturer Instructions for Use (IFU) for complete inspection and startup guidance.

Facility items to check may include, but are not limited to:

- ☐ Water treatment
    a. Run water as directed by tank manufacturer's instructions for use (IFU) and check status
    b. Flush water lines that have been dormant
    c. Conduct water analysis that includes microbial counts
- ☐ Boiler Systems
    a. Inspect valves, fitting, pre-treatment tanks and filters per manufacturer IFU
    b. Review boiler instructions for start-up after dormancy
- ☐ Instrument Air
    a. Inspect pumps, lines, and attachments for cleanliness and function
    b. Inspect and change filters as needed
- ☐ Confirm air flow rates in decontamination, prep & pack, and sterile storage meet facility performance specifications

Decontamination items to check may include, but are not limited to:

- ☐ Sinks
    a. Flush lines of dormant sinks and accessories
    b. Verify calibrations of chemical dispensing systems
    c. Inspect and decontaminate all tubing, hoses, nozzles and other accessories for cracks, leaks, or visible biofilm formation
    d. Perform cleaning and decontamination of all tubing per manufacturer's IFU
    e. Conduct water analysis of utility and critical water that includes microbial counts to reduce microbial load
    f. Consider disposing of all used instrument brushes

- ☐ Cleaning Chemistries
    a. Check container expiration dating. Dispose and replace as needed. If gross amounts of debris are seen in the open container, dispose and replace.
    b. Inspect dispensing tubing and connections for function
    c. Perform cleaning and decontamination of all tubing per manufacturer's IFU

- ☐ Ultrasonic Cleaners
    a. Perform installation inspection per equipment manufacturer's IFU
    b. Disinfect surfaces as directed by manufacturer's IFU
    c. Perform verification testing
    d. Verify printer paper is present (where applicable)
    e. Run a test print to confirm print density (where applicable)

- ☐ Washer Disinfectors
    a. Inspect all racks, rack tubing, spray arms and door gaskets for cleanliness and function
    b. Clean sump or chamber filter
    c. Verify calibrations of chemical dispensing system
    d. Inspect washer conveyor system for cleanliness and function (if applicable)
    e. Perform qualification testing of each washer and all racks
    f. Perform decontamination cycle
    g. Verify printer paper is present (where applicable)
    h. Run a test print to confirm print density (where applicable)
    i. Verify equipment connectivity to data management systems

- ☐ Cart Washers
    a. Inspect all spray arms, instrument racks and door gaskets for cleanliness, debris, and function
    b. Perform descaling cycle
    c. Verify printer paper is present (where applicable)
    d. Run a test print to confirm print density (where applicable)
    e. Verify equipment connectivity to data management systems

- ☐ Disposables
    a. Check open container expiration dating of surface disinfection sprays and wipes. Replace and dispose as needed.
    b. Check expiration date of cleaning indicators and test supplies. Dispose and replace as needed.

- ☐ Instrument Drying Cabinet
    a. Inspect door gaskets cleanliness and function
    b. Perform installation inspection
    c. Clean/disinfect per manufacturer's IFU
    d. Verify printer paper is present (where applicable)
    e. Run a test print to confirm print density (where applicable)
    f. Verify equipment connectivity to data management systems

Clean Side items to check may include, but are not limited to:

- ☐ Workstations
    a. Check expiration dating of chemical indicators (CIs), biological indicators (BIs) wraps, pouches, and other disposables
    b. Disinfect surfaces with an EPA registered disinfectant

- ☐ Prep & Pack Supplies
    a. Check expiration dating on all disposables including wraps, pouches, disposable container filters, semi-reusable container filters, CIs, biological indicators (BIs), etc.
    b. Reprocess spare instrumentation per facility policies

- ☐ Biological Indicator Incubators
    a. Inspect per incubator IFU
    b. Perform biological indicator control test

- ☐ Liquid Chemical Sterilant Processing System
    a. Inspect gaskets, connectors, hoses, and accessories for cleanliness and function
    b. Check expiration dating on all disposables including sterilant, filters, chemical indicators (CIs) and spore test strips
    c. Perform qualification testing
    d. Verify printer paper is present (where applicable)
    e. Run a test print to confirm print density (where applicable)
    f. Verify equipment connectivity to data management systems

- ☐ Hydrogen Peroxide Sterilizers
    a. Inspect sterilizer chamber and door gasket for cleanliness and function
    b. Check in use cartridge/cup for expiration. Dispose as necessary per manufacturer IFU
    c. Check expiration date on supplies including BI, CI and sterilant

d. Perform qualification testing per manufacturer's IFU (you may need to order the qualification test kits)
e. Perform Leak Test (if applicable)
f. Verify printer paper is present (where applicable)
g. Run a test print to confirm print density (where applicable)
h. Verify equipment connectivity to data management systems

- ☐ Steam Sterilizers
  a. Inspect chamber, drain and door gaskets for cleanliness and function
  b. Perform BI qualification testing for all sterilization cycles used by the facility
  c. Perform Air Removal (Bowie-Dick) Qualification Testing on prevac sterilizers
  d. Perform Leak Test (if not completed the previous week)
  e. Verify printer paper is present (where applicable)
  f. Run a test print to confirm print density (where applicable)
  g. Verify equipment connectivity to data management system

- ☐ Ethylene Oxide Sterilizers
  a. Inspect ventilation system per manufacturer IFU
  b. Check expiration date on supplies including BI, CI and sterilant
  c. Perform qualification testing on cycles used by the facility
  d. Verify printer paper is present (where applicable)
  e. Run a test print to confirm print density (where applicable)
  f. Verify equipment connectivity to data management systems

Sterile Storage items to check may include, but are not limited to:

- ☐ Dispose of expired disposables and replenish
- ☐ Identify expired sterile sets, packs, and pouches. Remove and reprocess.
- ☐ Reprocess or disinfect case carts per facility policy
- ☐ Inspect environment for cleanliness and contaminants and reprocess or replace sterile items as needed

Immediate Use Steam Sterilizers items to check may include, but are not limited to:

- ☐ Steam Sterilizers
    a. Inspect chamber, drain and door gaskets for cleanliness and function
    b. Perform BI qualification testing for all sterilization cycles used by the facility
    c. Perform Air Removal (Bowie-Dick) qualification testing on prevac sterilizers
    d. Perform Leak Testing (if not done the previous week)
    e. Verify printer paper is present (where applicable)
    f. Run a test print to confirm print density (where applicable)
    g. Verify equipment connectivity to data management system
- ☐ Inspect IUSS containment devices
    a. Clean as needed
    b. Inspect valves, gaskets, and filter retainers for cleanliness and function per manufacturer's IFU
- ☐ Check for expired disposables
    a. Check expiration dating on all disposables including disposable filters, semi-reusable filters, CIs, BIs, etc.

Staff preparedness items to check may include, but are not limited to:

- ☐ Review reprocessing IFU and assess needs for competency checks
- ☐ Determine need for increased cleaning testing or microbial testing

References:

- *Association for the Advancement of Medical Instrumentation. (2008: (R) 2012). ANSI/AAMI ST41:2008/(R) 2012 - Ethylene oxide sterilization in health care facilities: Safety and effectiveness Packaging, preparation, and sterilization (pp. 47-54). Arlington, VA: AAMI*
- *Association for the Advancement of Medical Instrumentation. (2013). ANSI/AAMI ST58: 2013 Chemical sterilization and high-level disinfection in health care facilities. Arlington, VA: Author.*
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- *Association for the Advancement of Medical Instrumentation. (2014) ANSI/AAMI TIR34:2014 Water for the reprocessing of medical devices. Arlington, VA: Author*