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**Owner:** *Roshelle Satterthwait: Dir  
 Perioperative Svcs*  
**Policy Area:** *Sterile Processing*  
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**Applicability:** *WA - Kadlec Regional Medical  
 Center*

## Care and Cleaning of Steam Sterilizers, 32.14.04

**Document Type:** Policy

**SUPERSEDES:** 3/13, 6/02, 4/87, 6/96, 12/01

### PURPOSE:

The purpose of this policy is to familiarize users with the steps taken when caring and cleaning autoclaves in SPD and in the OR.

### PROCEDURE:

Autoclaves in the Sterile Processing Department and in the Operating Room will be cleaned as described below. Records of cleaning are kept in the Sterile Processing Department Log Books.

#### Daily with Each Sterilizer:

1. Clean the Sediment Screen of any contaminates. (no tools needed)
  - a. Use Caution due to hot surfaces
2. Check the integrity of the door gasket.
3. Perform Air Removal (DART) Test to check the sterilizer's vacuum function.
4. Biologicals are included on every load to check the exposure time, temperature, and pressure of the sterility process.
5. Read the cycle print out after each load and report any abnormalities in cycle stages.

Details are to be included in the departments Standard of Work and Core Competencies

#### Weekly:

1. Clean the touch screen surface. Do not use spray or harsh chemicals.
2. Clean the Exterior surface with a stainless steel cleaner/polish. Do not use harsh Chemicals.
3. Wipe clean the door gasket. Do not use harsh chemicals.

Details are to be included in the departments Standard of Work and Core Competencies

#### Bi-Annually:

1. Ensure a deep clean is performed on all sterilizers by a company that specializes in this process.

## Attachments

No Attachments

## Approval Signatures

Approver	Date
Kirk Harper: CNO	01/2020
Heather Shipman: Executive Assistant	01/2020
Roshelle Satterthwait: Dir Perioperative Svcs	01/2020

## Applicability

WA - Kadlec Regional Medical Center

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