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Owner: Roshelle Satterthwait: Dir
 Perioperative Svcs
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Vaporized Hydrogen Peroxide Sterilization, 32.14.07

Document Type: Policy

SUPERSEDES: 2/10, 3/04, 6/02, 6/96

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this policy is to outline the use and function of the vaporized hydrogen peroxide sterilizers.

The vaporized hydrogen peroxide sterilizers are used to sterilize items that cannot withstand the heat, moisture, and high pressure of steam sterilization. These use radio waves and Hydrogen Peroxide to create a plasma that interacts with and destroys microorganisms.

PROCEDURE:

1. Packaging

- a. Wrap items in proper packages adding chemical indicators inside package. Seal with proper indicator tape.
 - Use only polypropylene items, i.e. wrap, containers, peel pouches.
 - No cellulosic materials, such as paper, cloth, or cotton.
 - Item to be sterilized must be completely void of all moisture.
 Details are to be included in the department's Standard Work Instructions.

2. Loading

- a. Keep door closed when not in use.
- b. Scan all items into the tracking system for load content.
- c. Place biological indicator test on bottom shelf. A BI is included in every load.
- d. Do not over load chamber or stack items.
 - Items must not touch the inside walls.
- e. Ensure cassette is in machine and machine reads ready for use on LCD control panel.
- f. Select appropriate cycle based on the manufacturer's IFU's and load contents.

Details are to be included in the department's Standards of Work.

3. Cycle

1. The sterilizer will go through multiple stages:

- Vacuum
- Injection
- Diffusion
- Plasma
- Injection
- Diffusion
- Plasma
- Vent
 - The vent valve is opened and the chamber is returned to normal atmospheric pressure. The HEPA filters attached to the chamber filters the air as it enters the chamber, to ensure that only sterile air is pulled into packages. Total cycle duration varies based off of the load. Details are to be included in the department's Standards of Work.

4. Cycle Completion

- a. Alarm will sound
- b. Open Door
- c. Place the biological in the incubator. Follow manufacturer's instructions for BI culture.
- d. Remove all items from machine.
- e. Complete the required documentation in the tracking system.
Details are to be included in the department's Standards of Work.

5. Sterilizer Malfunctions

- a. In the case of a sterilizer malfunction, notify the SPD Supervisor.
- b. Read the printout to see what message is displayed. Check the Operator's Manual for probable causes and solutions.
- c. Check load for moisture. Instruments must be thoroughly dried. Moisture will absorb the hydrogen peroxide and will interfere with the sterilization process.
- d. Make sure nothing was touching the back or the sides of the chamber. This will disrupt the radio frequency and interfere with the plasma phase of the cycle.
- e. Call manufacturer's repair technician if the problem persists and cannot be solved.
Details are to be included in the department's Standard of Work.

6. Safety

- a. Use of appropriate PPE, Do Not handle empty cassettes without PPE. If H2O2 gets on your skin, rinse with running water for 15 minutes.
- b. Discard empty cassette collection box according to protocol.

7. Maintenance

1. Do not attempt to clean the damper, door, interior surfaces, shelves or electrode. If these items need cleaning, call manufacturer's customer care center.
2. Clean the Hydrogen Peroxide monitor lens once a week or when debris is noted, wipe with Isopropyl Alcohol. NEVER USE AN ABRASIVE CLEANER.

Details are to be included in the department's Standard of Work.

In the case that a manufacturers IFU doesn't include information on the items compatibility with the sterilizer, see www.Sterradsterilityguide.com

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