

SFHDEC4

Prepare re-usable medical devices for sterilisation



Overview

This National Occupational Standard is about preparing equipment for processing salvaged blood. The decision to process salvaged blood will be made by the responsible clinician or relevant member of staff. It is the operator's responsibility to inform the relevant member of staff that a useable amount of salvaged blood has been collected.

Users of this National Occupational Standard will need to ensure that practice reflects up to date information and policies.

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Performance criteria

You must be able to:

- P1 apply standard precautions for infection control and other necessary health and safety measures
- P2 check and confirm with the relevant member of staff the suitability of the salvaged blood for processing
- P3 maintain strict asepsis at all times
- P4 check and confirm that the correct processing equipment is safe to use
- P5 load the processing equipment into the machine and connect to the collection equipment
- P6 check and confirm that the wash fluid is intravenous normal saline 0.9% before priming the system
- P7 set the correct machine programme ready for use
- P8 inform the relevant member of staff that processing equipment is fully prepared as necessary

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

- K1 the current European and National legislation, national guidelines, organisational policies and protocols in accordance with Clinical/Corporate Governance which affect your work practice in relation to preparing equipment for processing salvaged blood
- K2 your responsibilities and accountability in relation to the current European and National legislation, national guidelines and local policies and protocols, code of conduct and Clinical/Corporate Governance
- K3 the importance of working within your own sphere of competence and limits of personal responsibility and accountability in relation to preparing equipment for processing salvaged blood
- K4 infection prevention and control in the preparation of equipment for the processing of salvaged blood and potential consequences of poor practice
- K5 the rationale behind the use of autologous blood transfusion
- K6 the indications and contraindications of the use of intra-operative cell salvage
- K7 the applications of intra-operative cell salvage in relation to patients who refuse allogeneic blood on religious or other grounds
- K8 factors to be considered in the decision to set up the processing equipment
- K9 the types, purpose and functions of the intra-operative cell salvage machines used in your work area
- K10 the purpose of the processing set equipment
- K11 the rationale for expiry time on the set up equipment
- K12 the dangers of re-using equipment designed for single use only
- K13 the choice of intravenous normal saline 0.9% as the wash fluid
- K14 the possible contents of the collection reservoir during surgery, including potential contaminants, in relation to the decision to set up to process salvaged blood
- K15 the advantages or risks of swab washing
- K16 how to estimate blood loss during intra-operative cell salvage
- K17 the rationale for and calculation of expiry time of the salvaged blood
- K18 the role of the individual in preparing equipment for processing salvaged blood and how this relates to other members of the theatre team
- K19 the importance of selecting the correct machine programme, where applicable, ready for use
- K20 the importance of recording all information, clearly and precisely in the appropriate documentation
- K21 how to recognise hazards, errors and malfunctions of equipment and the appropriate action to take
- K22 the importance of immediately reporting any issues that are outside your

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own sphere of competence without delay to the relevant member of staff

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Additional Information

External Links

This National Occupational Standard links with the following dimension within the NHS Knowledge and Skills Framework (October 2004):

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Originating organisation	Skills for Health
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Relevant occupations	Health, Public Services and Care; Health and Social Care; Managers and Senior Officials; Associate Professionals and Technical Occupations; Health and Social Services Officers; Health Associate Professionals; Personal Service Occupations; Healthcare and Related Personal Services
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Suite	Decontamination
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