SFHDEC5
Carry out sterilisation and disinfection of re-useable medical devices

Overview

This standard covers the sterilisation and disinfection of re-usable medical devices in the decontamination facility.

Users of this 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 prevention and control any other relevant health and safety measures
P2 carry out performance checks in accordance with HTM 2010
P3 maintain records and logs in accordance with departmental procedures and HTM 2010
P4 ensure that devices, including packaging, are suitable for sterilisation and selected
P5 ensure the steriliser load configuration is in accordance with work instructions
P6 operate the steriliser in accordance with work instructions
P7 after process completion, examine packaging for integrity and moisture
P8 examine the printout to ensure that the parameters (requirements) of the cycle have been met
P9 ensure all labelling requirements are complete and attached
P10 ensure that finished product is allowed to cool in the appropriate area before handling, storage or issue
P11 ensure product release protocols are followed

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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 carrying out sterilisation and disinfection of re-useable medical devices

K2 your responsibilities and accountability in relation to the current European and National legislation, national guidelines and local policies and protocols and Clinical/Corporate Governance

K3 the duty to report any acts or omissions in care that could be detrimental to yourself, other individuals or your employer

K4 the importance of working within your own sphere of competence and seeking advice when faced with situations outside your sphere of competence

K5 how to operate sterilisers in use in your area

K6 alternative sterilisation methods and their application

K7 how to correctly load and unload sterilisers

K8 steriliser test methods

K9 how to handle and store sterilised devices if appropriate to do so

K10 why devices are cooled before storage

K11 the product release requirements from the steriliser to store

K12 reasons why and how products may be recalled

K13 the importance of correctly reading:

K13.1 record charts

K13.2 steriliser instruments, gauges and printouts

K14 the importance of correctly maintaining log books for processing equipment

K15 how tracking and traceability is ensured within the decontamination facility

K16 methods of reporting the malfunction of machines and faulty loads and why it is important to follow agreed reporting procedures

K17 the situations/circumstances when decontamination certification is required

K18 situations/circumstance when a decontamination certification is required

K19 details to be recorded on a decontamination certificate

K20 the importance of immediately reporting any issues which are outside your own sphere of competence without delay to the relevant member of staff

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Additional Information

External Links

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

Dimension: EF2 Environments and buildings

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