

Y N INSTRUMENT STERILIZATION BETWEEN PATIENTS

- All hand and orthodontic instruments
- High-speed handpieces
- Low-speed handpiece components
- All bur and bur changers, including contaminated laboratory burs and diamond abrasives
- All endodontic instruments
- Air-water syringe tips
- High volume evacuator tips
- Surgical instruments
- Ultrasonic periodontal scalers and tips
- Electro-surgery tips
- Metal impression trays
- Intra-oral radiographic equipment that can withstand heat sterilization

GENERAL STERILIZATION GUIDELINES

- Items are pre-cleaned according to manufacturer and visually inspected for residual soil prior to sterilization
- Enzymatic cleaner or detergent is used for pre-cleaning and discarded according to the manufacturer's instruction (typically after each use)
- Cleaning brushes are disposable or cleaned with high level disinfectant or sterilized after each use.
- After pre-cleaning, instruments are appropriately wrapped/packaged for sterilization.
- A chemical indicator is used internally and externally.
- A biological indicator (spore test) is used at least weekly for each sterilizer and with every load containing implantable items
- Sterile packs are labeled with the sterilizer used, the cycle or load number, and the date of sterilization
- Sterile packages are inspected for integrity and compromised packages are reprocessed prior to use
- Flash sterilization (immediate use) is only done in circumstances in which routine sterilization procedures cannot be performed
- Instruments that are flash sterilized are used immediately and not stored

CLINICAL CONTACT SERVICES

(directly contacted by contaminated instruments, devices, hands or gloves)

- Cleaned and disinfected between patients or barrier covered and changed between patients

OVER

Y N

HOUSEKEEPING SURFACES (not directly touched during the delivery of dental care)

- Clean walls, sinks and floors routinely with a detergent and water or an EPA registered disinfectant/detergent
- Clean mops and cloths after use and allow them to dry
- Prepare fresh cleaning or EPA disinfecting solutions daily

HAND HYGIENE

- Before and after patient contact
- Before glove placement and after glove removal
- After touching inanimate objects likely to be contaminated by blood, saliva or bodily fluids
- Before leaving the dental operatory or laboratory
- When hands are visibly soiled
- Perform a surgical scrub prior to surgery

DENTAL UNIT WATERLINE

- Maintained according to manufacturer's guidelines
- Dental unit water tested in each operatory quarterly

TRAINING

- Training conducted yearly for all employees and new employees

* A detailed OSHA Compliance Checklist is also available from *Compliance Training Partners*.