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Procedure: High Level Disinfection

Date:

Revised Date:

Purpose: Semi-critical medical equipment/devices require decontamination using, at a minimum, high-level disinfection (HLD). Sterilization is the preferred method of decontamination for these devices. HLD is performed after the equipment/device is thoroughly cleaned, rinsed and excess rinse water is removed. The appropriate type of high-level disinfectant must be selected in accordance with the medical device and HLD Manufacturer's Instructions For Use (MIFU).

High-Level Disinfection

1. Semi-critical medical equipment/devices require a **minimum** of high-level disinfection – sterilization is preferred.
2. The disinfectant has a Drug Identification Number (DIN) from Health Canada.
3. The disinfectant label indicates that the product is a chemosterilant or a high-level disinfectant (HLD).
4. The HLD is prepared and used according to the manufacturer's instructions specified on the label, MSDS or accompanying product literature.
5. An appropriate chemical test strip specified by the disinfectant manufacturer is purchased and used to test disinfectant minimum effective concentration (MEC) at least daily.
6. Results of all disinfectant MEC testing are recorded in a log.
7. When opened, each container of chemical test strips is checked using a quality control procedure recommended by the manufacturer to verify accuracy.
8. Results of all quality control testing of test strips are recorded in a log.
9. Containers of test strips are dated when opened and not used beyond the shelf life indicated by the manufacturer.
10. There is documentation that the correct HLD solution is used when solution is changed.
11. Medical equipment/devices are completely immersed in HLD for the recommended time.

After each use of equipment:

1. Prepare _____ (detergent/enzymatic) solution by adding ____ ml to ____ ml water. (Follow instructions on label for correct concentration.)

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2. If not being cleaned immediately, immerse medical equipment/device into freshly prepared solution of _____ (indicate name of detergent/enzymatic product used) for _____ minutes to prevent drying of soil. (Follow detergent/enzymatic manufacturer's instructions for soak time.)
3. Clean with detergent/enzymatic solution (manual or automated cleaning). Requires use of _____. (Appropriate tools e.g., Brush, Cloth, Ultrasonic)
4. Rinse with clean tap water to remove detergent and soil residue. Ensure rinsing is done under the surface of the water using agitation.
5. Dry after cleaning, before immersing in disinfectant, to prevent dilution of the disinfectant.
6. Remove cover from container of HLD.
7. Completely immerse medical equipment/device in HLD.
8. Cover container of HLD and begin timing (set timer).
9. Soak for _____ minutes at room temperature (according to manufacturer's instructions).
10. Rinse with water as per manufacturer's instructions to ensure removal of residual disinfectant. Ensure rinsing is done under the surface of the water using agitation.
11. If medical equipment/device has channels or lumens, purge with alcohol to facilitate drying.
12. Inspect medical equipment/device for damage and cleanliness. Remove damaged (rusted, cracked, pitted) equipment/device from service. Equipment/devices that are soiled must be re-cleaned.
13. Dry with a lint free cloth.
14. Store in a clean, dry location to ensure the medical equipment/device is free from contamination until time of use. Storage location: _____

References:

1. Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion (Public Health Ontario), Provincial Infectious Diseases Advisory Committee. Infection Prevention and Control for Clinical Office Practice. 1st Revision. Toronto, ON: Queen's Printer for Ontario; April 2015.
https://www.publichealthontario.ca/en/eRepository/IPAC_Clinical_Office_Practice_2013.pdf
2. Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion (Public Health Ontario). Provincial Infectious Diseases Advisory Committee. Best practices for cleaning, disinfection and sterilization of medical equipment/devices. 3rd ed. Toronto, ON: Queen's Printer for Ontario; May 2013

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https://www.publichealthontario.ca/en/eRepository/PIDAC_Cleaning_Disinfection_and_Sterilization_2013.pdf

3. _____ (name of chemical manufacturer) instructions for HLD