Environmental Health/Safety Infection Control – Cold Sterilization

PURPOSE: To provide recommended guidelines for developing a comprehensive instrument care program for cold sterilization.

POLICY: The recommended guidelines for cold sterilization will be followed.

PROCEDURE:

1. Confirm from manufacturer item(s) is/are heat-sensitive.

2. Require Appropriate Precaution obtained:
   A. Proper ventilation as manufacturer’s instructions.
   B. Closed containers
   C. Proper PPE – Chemical-resistant gloves, aprons, safety eyewear, face shields, safe chemical handling.

3. Instrument Cleaning:
   A. Thoroughly clean all instruments with a neutral pH detergent to remove debris
   B. Place clean, rough-dried equipment in perforated inner tray and immerse in Cold Sterilization Solution for manufacturer’s recommended period of time. Use covered containers to minimize odor and to prevent evaporation.

4. Sterilization:
   A. Immerse completely for a minimum of twelve (12) hours in liquid chemical germicides approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) as sterilants or high-level disinfection.
   B. Remove equipment from the solution.
   C. For sterilization: Use sterile techniques when removing equipment from solution and rinse thoroughly with sterile water.

5. Post-Sterilization:
   A. Rinsed with Sterile water to remove chemical residues.
   B. Dried with sterile towels
   C. Packaged or wrapped
   D. And handled using sterile gloves

6. Stored before use, equipments must be sterilized again just before use.

7. Protection:
A. Carefully follow Manufacturer label instructions and safety precautions.
B. Cleaning procedure: Blood and other bodily fluids must be thoroughly cleaned from surfaces and objects before application of the disinfectant or sterilants.
C. Disposal of infection material: Blood and other bodily fluids should be disposed of per approved procedures.

8. Event of Cold Chemical Sterilants Spill:
   A. Use Appropriate PPE
   B. Follow exposure control plan and clean up instructions per MSDS
Reference:


https://www.cdc.gov/infectioncontrol/guidelines/disinfection/sterilization/index.html