



2017 Infection Control learning sheet # 3 April 2017- Cleaning items for re-use and for off-site sterilisation

Instrument /Equipment Cleaning Steps

1. On completion of procedure, remove and dispose of sharps - this is the responsibility of the user.
2. Wearing gloves, remove gross soil by wiping item with wipe or similar. (wipe sharp ends onto wipe on solid surface)
3. Take item to cleaning area to clean (or place in detergent if cleaning is delayed) - use sealable plastic box.
4. Put on PPE in order - plastic apron, safety glasses and thick utility gloves
5. Put warm water and measured volume of detergent in washing sink / bowl.
6. Open all surfaces of used item and brush all surfaces clean under water level or insert brush into hollow surfaces.
7. Rinse the item under warm / hot running water, inspect, place to drain briefly.
8. Remove PPE in order - gloves, glasses then apron and perform hand hygiene after glove removal and at the end.
9. Wearing vinyl gloves, dry instrument with a low-lint towel.

The above is sufficient for dishes and bowls and ear syringes i.e. items for which cleaning is sufficient.

The following steps are for those sending items off site to another facility for sterilising:

1. The off-site facility's policy may require recleaning so leave clean, dry items unwrapped for transport.
2. Transport cleaned items in a sealed labelled "dirty" container accompanied by a "clean" labelled container.
3. Receive sterilised items back in clean container. (provide bubble wrap to prevent pouch damage in transport)
4. On receiving processed items, check items look clean, pouches are dry, intact, labelled for date and batch and that the pouch indicator has changed.
5. Record incoming pouches and above results as well as any further results sent into a logbook.
- If off-site facility is not accredited then cycle printouts are required
6. After use of pouch, record pouch details used against patient names in case of recall by off-site facility.
7. Place instruments in a dry, covered area for storage.

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