

Disinfection & Sterilization of Equipment

Wear Utility Gloves

Decontaminate the instruments in 0.5 % sodium hypochlorite solution for 10 minutes

Cleaning : Soak the instruments in water

(Soak the instruments in water with detergent immediately after use or keep the instruments in a bucket and cover with wet towel)

Thoroughly wash and rinse instruments

Preferred Method

Sterilization



CHEMICAL

- Soak in 2% activated Glutaraldehyde solution for a minimum of 10 hours
- Rinse with sterile water* and dry
- For e.g. endoscope, laparoscope, sharps

*(For sterile water, leftover water from Autoclave may be used)



AUTOCLAVE

- 15 pounds pressure, 121°C
- 20 minutes for unwrapped instruments
- 30 minutes for wrapped instruments
- Used for linen (30 min)
- Used for cotton, instruments and surgical dressing (20 min)



BOIL OR STEAM

- Lid on, 20 minutes after water boils
- Articles should be completely immersed in water
- Do not add or remove more instruments after the water starts boiling
- Used for instruments



CHEMICAL

- Soak in 2% activated Glutaraldehyde solution for a minimum of 20 minutes
- Rinse with sterile/HLD water and dry
- For e.g. endoscope, laparoscope, sharps

1. Autoclaved instruments can be used upto 7 days if drum is not opened .
2. Unused Autoclave instruments are to be re-sterilized after 24 hours, once drum is opened.
3. Instruments processed with wet methods (boil/steam) are to be re-sterilized after 24 hours, if unused.

Labelling of sterilized sets to include Autoclave number (if more than 1 Autoclave in the hospital), batch/cycle number, date of sterilization, expiry date, technician name and Chemical Indicator (Signiloc).