

Sterilized and Spotless: Sterilizer Repairs

Have you had a sterilizer that needed to be repaired, relocated or replaced? How does this affect the sterilization process?

Before a sterilizer is brought back into service after repair, replacement or relocation, testing should be done to confirm the sterilizer is working properly. AAMI/ANSI ST79 Comprehensive Guide to Steam Sterilization in Healthcare Settings, and the CDC's [Guidance for Sterilization in Healthcare Facilities](#) recommend 3 consecutive Biological Indicator tests be completed with passing results before sterilizing patient care items.

These tests ensure the relocation, repair or replacement was successful and the sterilizer is functioning properly.



Upcoming Events

[Management of a Blood Exposure in Dentistry \(webinar\)](#) | 10/02/24

[Ne ICAP Acute/ Outpatient Monthly Update \(webinar\)](#) | 10/09/24

[US Antibiotic Awareness Week \(Promotional Activity\)](#) | 11/18-24/24

Multi-use Materials Syringes: Cross Contamination Risk

Etch, composites and cements often come in multi-use syringe dispensers. These multi-use items carry a high risk of cross contamination unless they are managed properly.

Many different manufacturer's instructions for use (IFU) for these products state that they must be used with a barrier to prevent cross contamination as they cannot be effectively disinfected. They go on to state that if a barrier is not used, the syringe dispenser should be treated as a single use item.

Many IFUs also state that the syringes should be stored with the storage caps on, not the dispensing tips, as the products can dry out over time.

Review your product IFU to ensure you are managing and disinfecting the syringes appropriately to help keep your patients safe!



September Featured Resource: Respiratory Viral Vaccines for 2024-2025 Season



Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR)

Influenza Vaccine: Routine annual influenza vaccination is recommended for all persons aged ≥ 6 months who do not have contraindications. Find out more at: <https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/73/rr/rr7305a1.htm>

COVID-19 Vaccine: Recommended for all persons aged ≥ 6 months to target currently circulating SARS-CoV2 strains and prevent severe illness and death. Find out more at: <https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/73/wr/mm7337e2.htm>

ICAP Newsworthy Notes

What's been going on at ICAP? We're so glad you asked!

- Nebraska ICAP is always happy to come to your facility to do staff education on infection control! We can customize this education to your needs and even include hands on activities, such as the use of UV reactive lotions for hand hygiene training.
- ICAP continues to work with dental facilities in Nebraska to proactively review their infection control programs and policies and provide IPC education for a safer dental visit.
- Dental Resources that cover all infection control topics as well as information on where to listen to the podcast can be found on our website at: <https://icap.nebraskamed.com/facilities/dental/>



Contact us with your infection control questions, site visit requests, education, or mentorship questions at 402.552.2881 or nebraskaicap@nebraskamed.com.