

Disclosures

- Successful completion: Participants must complete the entire program and submit required documentation. No partial credit will be given.
- 2. Conflict of interest: Employee of STERIS.
- Commercial company support: Fees are underwritten by education funding provided by STERIS.
- 4. Non-commercial company support: None.
- 5. Alternative/Complementary therapy: None.

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Continuing Education

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- STERIS Corporation is an approved provider of continuing nursing education by CBRN provider # CEP 11681 and an approved Administrator Education Unit (AEU) and Infection Prevention Control (IPCH) provider by BASC provider # 1417.
- · This program is approved for:
- $\underline{0}$ hour(s) of GI Specific content credit by ABCGN (American Board of Certification for Gastroenterology Nurses),
- $\underline{\textbf{0}}$ AEU(s) & $\underline{\textbf{0}}$ IPCH(s) by **BASC** (Board of Ambulatory Surgery Certification), and
- $\underline{\textbf{1}}$ contact hour(s) of continuing education credit
- CBRN (California Board of Registered Nursing);
- CBSPD (Certified Board for Sterile Processing and Distribution); and
- HSPA (Healthcare Sterile Processing Association).

Continuing Education



Through a partnership with CCI®, it also meets CNOR® and CSSM® recertification requirements for perioperative nurses.

Learning Objectives

- 1. Describe the process of maintaining sterile package integrity
- 2. Identify contaminating events that compromise sterility maintenance

Sterility Maintenance Goal

Maintain sterile package integrity until opened for its intended use.



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Basic Purpose Of Packaging

- Adequately/properly contain an item
- Permit sterilization/aeration to take place
- Provide barrier to microorganisms
- Ensure aseptic presentation

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Packaging Manufacturer's Responsibility

• Validate barrier properties

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Appropriate for sterile packaging

Validate sterilization modality and parameters

· Validate post sterilization shelf life



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Healthcare Professional Responsibility

- Select the right packaging materials
- Ensure use of appropriate size and weight
- Verify complete seal on peel packs
- Inspect packaging prior to sterilization
- Follow manufacturer's instructions for use
- Double pouching

Shelf-Life

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Event Related

- Sterile indefinite period of time
- Storage/transport conditions
- Handling

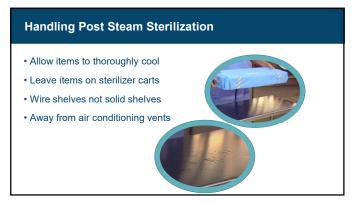
Time Related

- Specific period of time
- Defined by hospital policy and procedures

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Sterility Maintenance Covers - "Dust Covers"

- Protect sterile items
- Package MUST be cool, dry
- · Securely sealed and appropriately sized
- Label visible

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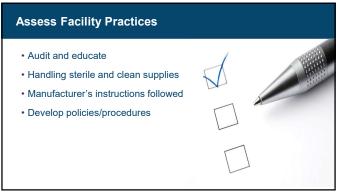
Specific Events Cause Contamination

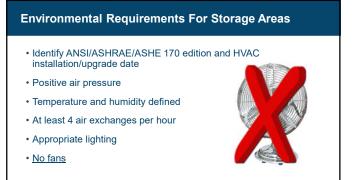
- Compression
- Holes/tears/ruptured seals
- High/low humidity
- Moisture



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General Environmental Requirements

• Enclosed limited access area

• Requires appropriate attire

• Dust and lint prevention

• Closed or open shelving

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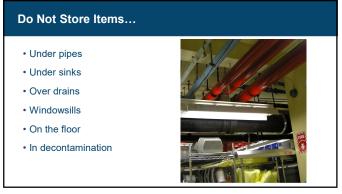








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Distribution Methods

Case and transport carts
Dedicated elevators or lifts
Hand carrying

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Limit Product Handling

- Each time a package is handled it becomes susceptible to damage
- · Always handle with care
- Do not handle any more than necessary
- Always have clean hands

Hand Carried Items/Methods

- Carry packages away from body
- Check for tears, holes, etc.



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Dispensing Or Opening Items

Check:

- External chemical indicator
- Expiration date, if applicable
- Package integrity
- Seals
- Container filters and tamper evident devices



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Aseptic Presentation

Items Returned From The Customer

· Sterile items left on case carts

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• Sterile items left on procedural trays

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Customer Training

- Training/education/competency
- Sterility maintenance
- Sterility breaches
- Aseptic presentation
- Auditing

Break Out Area

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Materials Management

- Receipt of sterile products at the dock
- Pulling cases
- Training/education/competency

Off-Site Distribution

- Used more frequently today
- Separation of clean and dirty
- Secure carts and bins
- Avoid condensation



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Action Items

- · Audit sterile storage areas for event related compliance
- Provide education and training on proper care, handling and storage of sterile medical devices

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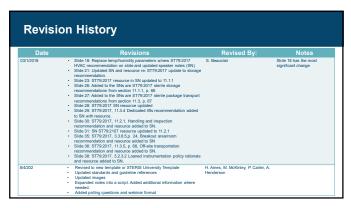
Questions?

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