

# Sterile Processing Technical Standards

**Program Overview:** Advanced instrument decontamination, chemical disinfection, structural sorting, tracking, and validation rules outlined by HSPA guidelines.

| Domain                                  | Technical Standard Definition                                                                                                   | Contextual Classroom / Lab / Field Examples                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|-----------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Decontamination & Cleaning Mechanics    | Execute mechanical and manual contamination clearance steps on surgical tools following specific manufacturer protocols (MIFU). | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Point-of-Use Management:</b> Apply pre-treatment solutions immediately after surgical completion to stop biological soils from drying into crevices.</li><li>• <b>Automated &amp; Manual Wash Runs:</b> Configure ultrasonic washers, test water parameters (AAMI ST108), clean tools, and manage clean-to-dirty workflow tracking.</li><li>• <b>Barrier Protection:</b> Put on advanced PPE configurations (heavy gloves, face shields, aprons) required inside negative-pressure clean lines.</li></ul> |
| Inspection, Assembly & Packaging        | Test tool performance profiles, check structural cleanliness, select parameters, and pack configurations for processing runs.   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Structural Testing:</b> Check cutting margins, test jaw tension, search for microscopic cracks, and utilize magnification panels to spot micro-soils.</li><li>• <b>Pack Geometry:</b> Organize tools into specific trays, place multi-parameter chemical indicators (CIs) in sets, and wrap bundles cleanly.</li></ul>                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Sterilization, Verification & Logistics | Configure thermal or chemical sterilization parameters, process biological validation checks, and manage logistics safely.      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Run Validation:</b> Track and read physical log lines, evaluate biological indicator (BI) spore sets, and verify load completion codes.</li><li>• <b>Inventory Management:</b> Route structural loads using protected cart systems and evaluate structural seals to verify packaging boundaries remain unbroken.</li></ul>                                                                                                                                                                                |

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