

**\*\*\*SAMPLE\*\*\***

**Environmental Health/Safety Infection Control – Cold Sterilization**

**PURPOSE:** To provide recommended guidelines for developing a comprehensive instrument care program for cold sterilization.

**POLICY:** The recommended guidelines for cold sterilization will be followed.

**PROCEDURE:**

1. Confirm from manufacturer item(s) is/are heat-sensitive.
2. Require Appropriate Precaution obtained:
  - A. Proper ventilation as manufacturer’s instructions.
  - B. Closed containers
  - C. Proper PPE – Chemical-resistant gloves, aprons, safety eyewear, face shields, safe chemical handling.
3. Instrument Cleaning:
  - A. Thoroughly clean all instruments with a neutral pH detergent to remove debris
  - B. Place clean, rough-dried equipment in perforated inner tray and immerse in Cold Sterilization Solution for manufacturer’s recommended period of time. Use covered containers to minimize odor and to prevent evaporation.
4. Sterilization:
  - A. Immerse completely for a minimum of twelve (12) hours in liquid chemical germicides approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) as sterilants or high-level disinfection.
  - B. Remove equipment from the solution.
  - C. For sterilization: Use sterile techniques when removing equipment from solution and rinse thoroughly with sterile water.
5. Post-Sterilization:
  - A. Rinsed with Sterile water to remove chemical residues.
  - B. Dried with sterile towels
  - C. Packaged or wrapped
  - D. And handled using sterile gloves
6. Stored before use, equipments must be sterilized again just before use.
7. Protection:

- A. Carefully follow Manufacturer label instructions and safety precautions.
  - B. Cleaning procedure: Blood and other bodily fluids must be thoroughly cleaned from surfaces and objects before application of the disinfectant or sterilants.
  - C. Disposal of infection material: Blood and other bodily fluids should be disposed of per approved procedures.
8. Event of Cold Chemical Sterilants Spill:
- A. Use Appropriate PPE
  - B. Follow exposure control plan and clean up instructions per MSDS

Reference:

<https://oshareview.com/2013/10/cdc-guidelines-sterilizing-heat-sensitive-dental-instruments-dental-infection-control/>

<https://www.cdc.gov/infectioncontrol/guidelines/disinfection/sterilization/index.html>