Unit 44: Terminal Processing including Sterilisation and High-level Disinfection

Level:	**4**
Unit type:	**Optional (Decontamination Science)**
Credit value:	**5**
Guided learning hours:	**36**

Unit summary

This unit gives you the knowledge and skills you need to process reusable medical equipment using terminal sterilisation or high-level disinfection. You will be able to understand how to use the sterilisers to process medical devices and the safety requirements for their operation. You will also be required to take appropriate reporting action when faults or breakdowns occur with processing equipment. This knowledge will be extended and applied to specific processing methods as you build your professional practice and practise safely in the workplace.

Unit assessment requirements

There are no specific assessment requirements for this unit. Please refer to the assessment strategy in *Annexe B*.

Additional information

All procedures must be undertaken in accordance with Standard Operating procedures and the requirements of own area of work.

AC1.3 includes:

- steam
- gas plasma
- ethylene oxide.

Learning outcomes and assessment criteria

To pass this unit, learners need to demonstrate that they can meet all the learning outcomes for the unit. The assessment criteria outline the requirements that the learner is expected to meet **in own area of work and in accordance with Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)** and **Quality Management Systems** to achieve the learning outcomes and the unit.

Learning outcomes		Assessment criteria		Evidence type	Portfolio reference	Date
1	Understand the principles and practice of processing reusable medical devices by terminal sterilisation	1.1	Evaluate the standard operating procedure for processing of all reusable medical devices by terminal sterilisation method			
		1.2	Explain the criteria for loading packs/sets onto the sterilisation carriage			
		1.3	Describe the critical cycle parameters required for a successful sterilisation cycle			
		1.4	Describe the advantages and disadvantages of the various methods of sterilisation			
		1.5	Explain the definition of sterilisation and high-level disinfection, and the difference between the two processes			
		1.6	Describe the role of the independent monitoring system and how it is used to perform product release			

Learning outcomes		Assessment criteria		Evidence type	Portfolio reference	Date
2	Be able to perform the processing of reusable medical devices by terminal sterilisation	2.1	Receive a range of reusable medical devices and prepare on the steriliser carriage for terminal sterilisation			
		2.2	Perform the checks required prior to accepting the medical devices for processing			
		2.3	Record the devices in the departmental information system			
		2.4	Describe the personal protective equipment to be worn whilst carrying out the terminal process			
		2.5	Demonstrate operation of the steriliser to process reusable medical devices			
		2.6	Perform the unloading and checking of the critical parameters of the sterilisation process			
		2.7	Demonstrate the correct cooling process for medical devices			
		2.8	Perform the product release process for medical devices to be despatched either to store or the service user ensuring all critical parameters are met			

Learning outcomes		Assessment criteria		Evidence type	Portfolio reference	Date
3	Be able to record all tasks in the departmental information system	3.1	Record all tasks in the departmental information system			
		3.2	Retrieve information on individual medical devices from the departmental information system			
		3.3	Produce departmental information system reports			
		3.4	Describe how the departmental information system assists with meeting contractual agreements			
4	Be able to perform the housekeeping requirement duties in the terminal processing area	4.1	Explain the housekeeping schedule carried out by others			
		4.2	Perform the housekeeping duties within own area of responsibility			
5	Be able to review and prioritise reports for validation	5.1	Review prepared reports for the testing of the steriliser for referral to an appropriate senior colleague			
		5.2	Review all housekeeping documentation and, when identified, highlight areas of concern or gaps to an appropriate senior colleague			
		5.3	Perform daily and observe weekly steriliser testing			
		5.4	Describe the actions required should the steriliser not meet acceptance criteria			

Learner name: _____ Date: _____

Learner signature: _____ Date: _____

Assessor signature: _____ Date: _____

Internal verifier signature: _____ Date: _____
(*if sampled*)