

COMPONENT SELECTION PRACTICES

1. Ensuring the correct ordering and selection of Surgical Prostheses.

Responsibility

It is recommended that each health care facility develops a policy / procedure for managing this process.

The process will be dependent upon where the surgical procedure is to be performed and should be clearly established, documented and communicated between the surgeon and the health care facility.

NB

- a. Date of surgery, patient names and surgeon name should be confirmed at this point.
- b. Prosthesis may be held as consignment stock by some facilities.

2. Ensuring the correct loan set and prostheses are checked into the Operating Suite/Sterilising Service.

NB: If applicable – (Not all prostheses require loan instrument sets)

A. Process

NB: Refer to

*AS/NZS 4187:2003 Cleaning, disinfecting and sterilizing reusable medical and surgical instruments and equipment, and maintenance of associated environments in health care facilities

*ACORN Standards 2004 - S 26 Use of Loan Equipment,

*ACORN Standards 2004 – S19 Reprocessing of Reusable items: Cleaning, packaging, Sterilisation and Storage of Sterile Supplies.

- Loan set arrives at facility allowing sufficient time for –
 1. Checking
 2. Decontamination
 3. Allocation to trays with weight loads etc.
 4. Sterilising
- Facility will check loan set and implants it is using against loan company checklist.
- Experienced staff to be responsible
- Documentation process may include
 1. Completion of company checklist
 2. Facility loan tracking record
 3. Facility special request for loan set
- Discrepancies reported to the Loan Set Company and if necessary, the Surgeon

B. In facilities where several sets may arrive together, the facility should establish stringent guidelines to ensure each set is processed separately

Accordingly, sets should be clearly labelled with the following information:

1. Name of tray
2. Surgeon's name
3. Patient details (name and UR if known)
4. Date intended for use
5. Date of processing
6. Name of person wrapping set
7. Name of procedure

C. To ensure prostheses are correctly selected for surgery the following checks should be conducted: -

- Integrity of packaging
- Sterilisation and expiry date
- Type of Sterilisation process
- Serial/lot numbers corresponding to company check list

NB - If prosthesis includes screws, plates etc. which are sterilised on site validation of sterilisation process must be obtained before cleared for use. For example: -

1. Biological indicators
2. Sterilisers parameters and right process
3. Class 6 chemical indicators

D. Prior to use of loan sets 'manufactured' sterilised by facility the instrument and circulating nurses must check:-

- Sets released from Central Sterilising Supply Service in line with AS/NZS 4187:2003 Guidelines
- Package integrity
- Chemical indicators
- Internal Class 6 indicators
- Right set/right procedure if facility performing more than one procedure requiring prosthesis on list.

3. Ensuring the correct prosthesis is used for a surgical procedure.

A. Process

- Consignment stock for the designated procedure (either held on site or delivered to the facility) and brought into operating theatre.

- Surgeon states item, size and side.
- Circulating nurse selects requested item, confirms with instrument nurse and surgeon verbally and visually.
- Item only opened on receipt of verbal confirmation
- Circulating nurse delivers item to the instrument nurse and sterile field using aseptic technique
- Prosthesis details recorded in patient history and elsewhere as required by facility protocol.

NB – All this will follow correct site surgery protocol before commencement of procedure.

B. Correct patient, correct site, correct procedure.

See Step 4 – Australian Quality and Safety Council

When patient present, activity stopped and all staff verbally confirm: -

- Presence of correct patient
- Correct site marked
- Procedure to be performed
- Availability of the correct implant where required.
- Confirmation of imaging data

C. Incorrect sizing, selection or damage of prosthesis

- In the event of an incorrect prosthesis being opened and unused, the item must be decontaminated before return to the loan company.
- In the event of the prosthesis being trialed / used and found to be incorrect or damaged and unfit for use, if appropriate, the item must be decontaminated before return to the loan company. (Items such as an intra ocular lens, trans vaginal tape, vascular graft may need to be discarded).
- The decision for managing the cost of this event will be made between the loan company and the health care facility.

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