

Dear CHICA Member:

I would appreciate your assistance with a complex issue.

There is a large array of surgical equipment from different manufacturers each with varying sterilization recommendations. These variable steam sterilization requirements can be difficult if not impossible to comply with.

I would be grateful if you would take a moment to provide an answer to the following question. A summary of the responses will be circulated back after this information is compiled.

The 3 Questions:

1. At your institution, have you adjusted your steam sterilization parameters [exposure time and temperature] to comply with different manufacturer recommendations [especially European companies like Depuy and Synthes]?
2. What process did you follow to reach your decision to adjust the cycles?
3. What steam sterilization parameters do you use with each of the instrument sets listed below?

Below are some steam sterilization recommendations for different manufacturers:

SYNTHES: (all instrument sets) Pre-vac (wrapped) 132-135°C F 8 minutes exposure:

DEPUY: (single & dual insert sets) Pre-vac 132-135 °C 14 minutes exposure:

DEPUY: (Multiple (3-4) insert sets) Pre-vac 132-135 °C 40 minutes exposure:

WRIGHT MEDICAL:(all instrument sets) Pre-vac 132°C 5 minutes exposure / 15 minutes dry time:

ARTHREX (LASWELL): (all instrument sets) 132-135 °C 5 minutes exposure:

BIOMET: (all instrument sets) 132-134 °C 5 minute exposure / 8 minute dry time:

ASCENSION ORTHOPEDICS: (MCP INSTRUMENT SET) 132 °C 5 minute exposure / 30 minute dry time:

Please reply to: zoutmand@kgh.kari.net

Thank you very much!
Dick Zoutman MD FRCPC

CHICA-Canada Physician Director