



## Clinical Process Instruction Manual

---

### Surgical Equipment and Instrument Handling Process Instruction

---

#### Policy:

All instruments used to recover human tissue intended for transplantation shall be sterile. All non-disposable surgical instruments and parts of mechanical/electrical equipment that come into contact with tissues during the recovery process shall be properly cleaned, disinfected and sterilized between donor recoveries in order to control the prevention of infectious disease contamination and cross-contamination of tissues.

#### Process:

##### General

1. Protective apparel, including protective clothing, eye protection, and gloves, shall always be worn while handling equipment and instruments used for tissue recovery. Refer to *Routine Practices and Personal Protective Equipment Process Instruction, CPI-9-1504*.

##### At the Time of Recovery

2. The tray or sterilization wrap is inspected to ensure that the packaging has not been damaged. Tissue Recovery Coordinator or Multi Tissue Recovery Coordinator (M)TRC will verify that all instruments and supplies are sterile and document this in the donor chart.
3. All instruments in the tray must be accounted for. Any discrepancies should be reported back to the sterilization facility and TGLN inventory staff as soon as possible.
4. The individual instruments are inspected to ensure that they are in good working condition. The (M)TRC will look for rust, pitting, dullness, or other surface damage.
5. The motion of hinged instruments is tested to make sure blades and locks are functional.
6. If an instrument is not in working order or requires sharpening, the instrument set shall be flagged for repair and to take out of service upon return to TGLN offices.

##### Post Recovery

7. Disposables
  - 7.1. Sharps, such as blades and needles, shall be discarded in designated sharps containers at the recovery site.



## Clinical Process Instruction Manual

---

### Surgical Equipment and Instrument Handling Process Instruction

---

- 7.2. Bio-hazardous non-sharps, such as blood or body fluid covered towels, drapes, gloves or small unusable pieces of tissue, shall be discarded in the designated biohazard waste bags. Larger pieces of tissue shall be placed in the body.
  - 7.3. Non-bio-hazardous non-sharps, such as paper / plastic packaging, empty plastic solution bottles, may be discarded in regular garbage bags, as can gloves or other disposables not covered in blood or body fluids.
  - 7.4. All other garbage shall be picked up and placed in the appropriate receptacle.
8. Non-Disposables
- 8.1. Ensure gross debris has been removed from the reusable instruments, spray the used instruments with a pre-cleansing agent and place them into the original container/wrapping before placing them into the transport container.
  - 8.2. The instruments will be placed into the appropriate tray and if applicable, wrapped using two layers of sterilization wraps in a standard sandwich wrap manner, then place in a clear plastic bag and close with zip tie, prior to placing in transport container.
9. Amalgatome
- 9.1. The head piece of the instrument is disassembled, and the blade is disposed appropriately in a sharps container.
  - 9.2. The equipment is cleaned as soon as possible at the recovery site using gauze or equivalent and enzymatic instrument cleaning agent to remove any tissue or debris. The Amalgatome is never immersed in liquid.
  - 9.3. The Amalgatome shall be placed in the original container, wrap in non-sterile blue wrapper and placed into a clear plastic bag, zip tied and then placed in the transport container.

### Instruments Requiring Repair or Replacement

10. If an instrument is not in working order or requires sharpening, it shall be tagged using a zip tie or equivalent tag. It shall then be taken out of service until such repair or sharpening can take place.
11. Clean instruments are placed in the designated area for repair without wrapping. If the instrument is used or dirty, it will be placed into the appropriate tray for sterilization after tagging as per CPI-9-515. This should be reported back to the sterilization facility and TGLN inventory staff as soon as possible. Inventory staff or designate will arrange the repair or replacement of the instrument with the sterilization facility.



## Clinical Process Instruction Manual

---

### Surgical Equipment and Instrument Handling Process Instruction

---

12. If an instrument needs to be replaced, it shall only be replaced with either a new instrument or a back-up instrument with the same color coding on it.

#### Records:

- No Records

#### References:

- American Association of Tissue Banks Standards for Tissue Banking D6.100
- *Routine Practices and Personal Protective Equipment Process Instruction, CPI-9-1504.*