

75064 Autoclaving and Sterilizing

(a)

Each clinic shall make provision in the clinic, or by acceptable arrangements with an outside service, for proper sterilization of instruments, utensils, supplies and solutions used in the clinic.

(b)

All sterilization of instruments and equipment in the clinic shall be under the supervision of a person who is qualified by experience and training.

(c)

Instructions for operating autoclaves and sterilizers shall be posted.

(d)

Written procedures for preparing supplies for autoclaving and for the operation of autoclaves shall be developed, maintained and made available to personnel responsible for sterilization of supplies and equipment. These procedures shall include the method of packaging, dating, loading the autoclave, temperature and pressure to be applied, and the period of exposure.

(e)

Autoclaves shall be checked on each day they are in use to verify that recording thermometers and indicating thermometers reasonably coincide. Autoclave tape may be used as an alternative to thermometers. Records of recording thermometers shall be retained for one year. Recording thermometers shall not

be required on portable sterilizers.

(f)

Autoclaving results shall be checked at least monthly by a bacteriological test.

Records of results of such tests shall be retained at least one year.

(g)

Sterilized items shall show expiration dates.