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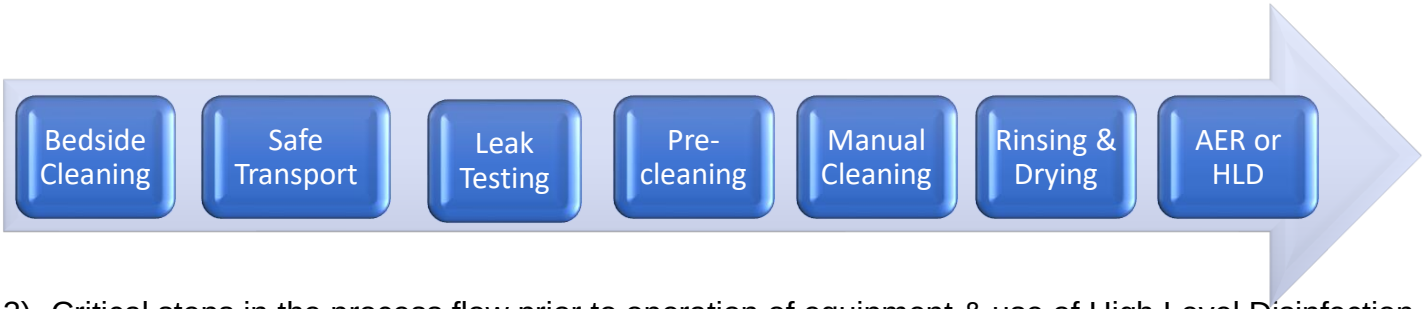
Competency Development Tips
Automated Endoscopic Reprocessor (AER) / High Level Disinfection (HLD)

Competencies should be based on facility processes, products, equipment, policies, and procedures. Competencies should also reference relevant industry guidance documents and standards, work instructions, job aides and tools, risk assessments, and staff's experience with performing the task. The following are additional items to consider when developing competencies for automated endoscopic reprocessors (AER) and the high-level disinfectants (HLD).

1) Safety
   a. PPE appropriate to the task
   b. Safety Data Sheets
2) Critical steps in Automated Endoscopic Reprocessor (AER) or High-Level Disinfection (HLD)



3) Critical steps in the process flow prior to operation of equipment & use of High Level Disinfection (HLD)
   a. Bedside Pre-cleaning
   b. Safe Transport
   c. Leak testing
   d. Pre-cleaning
   e. Manual cleaning
   f. Rinsing and Drying
4) Brushes
   a. Reusable vs. disposable
   b. Cleaning & disinfection
   c. Appropriate size
5) Equipment Operation
   a. Loading devices into equipment
   b. Attaching appropriate connectors if applicable

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c. Unloading devices
d. Routine maintenance

6) Product use
   a. Cleaning chemistries:
      a. Appropriate chemistry compatible with devices
      b. Dilution rate per gallons in sink
      c. Water temperature
      d. Recommended soak time
      e. Rinsing and Drying
   b. High-Level Disinfectant (HLD);
      - Appropriate dispensing and/or mixing (if applicable)
      - Appropriate soaking basin
      - Appropriate temperature (if applicable)
      - Appropriate expiration dating
      - Appropriate placement of device in HLD including but not limited to;
        - Opening all stopcocks/lumens
        - Flushing lumens to ensure HLD in in channels/lumens etc.
   c. High-Level Disinfectant Test Strips;
      a. Appropriate expiration dating
      b. Quality testing of new strip bottles per manufacturer's instructions for use (IFU)
      c. Appropriate storage
      d. Devices:
        - Steps listed in manufacturer's IFUs
   d. Original equipment manufacturer's (OEM) recommendations
7) Documentation:
   a. Critical steps
      - Delayed reprocessing
      - Soak times

- Sink cleaning set points, temperature, time, etc.

b. AER Load Log – manual
c. Instrument tracking system
d. Results of AER & HLD testing to include but not limited to;
   - Cycle printouts / load records
   - Solution test strips
   - Chemical indicators
   - Spore test strips

8) Quality Control Testing Process
   a. Solution test strip
   b. Chemical indicators
   c. Spore test strip
   d. Incubator
   e. Appropriate product use
      - Frequency
      - Procedure for testing
      - Interpretation
      - Troubleshooting failures
   f. Recall procedure