

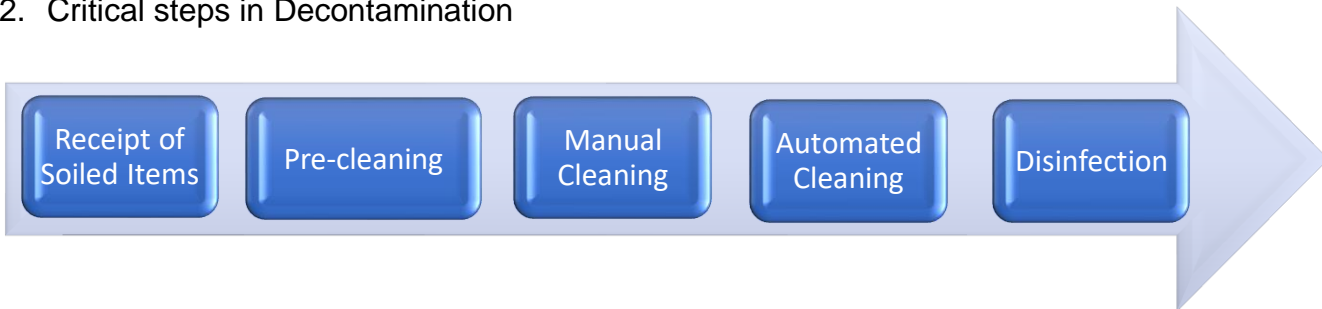
**Competency Development Tips  
Decontamination**

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 decontamination of medical devices.

1. Safety

- a. PPE appropriate to task
- b. Safe use of chemicals/equipment
- c. Location of Safety Data Sheet (SDS), spill kit, and emergency procedures

2. Critical steps in Decontamination



3. Process Flow prior to operation of automated equipment

- a. Receipt of soiled items
- b. Pre-cleaning
- c. Manual cleaning
- d. Brushes
  - Reusable vs. disposable
  - Cleaning & disinfection
  - Appropriate size

4. Equipment Operation

- a. Manifolds (Racks) – Use & loading including specialty e.g. MIS, ANES, robotic racks, etc.
- b. Loading equipment
- c. Set, sonic, and washer weights
- d. Operation of equipment including – sinks, chemical dosing, sonics, automated pass through windows, mechanical washers, and cart washers
- e. Routine maintenance

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- f. Leak testers for flexible endoscopes and TEE probes (if applicable)
- 5. Product use:
  - a. Chemistries:
    - Dilution rate per gallons in sink
    - Water temperature
    - Recommended soak time
    - Rinsing
  - b. Devices:
    - Disassembly
    - Type of cleaning chemistries
    - Recommended steps for specialty devices such as:
      - Robotics
      - Flexible endoscopes
      - Power
      - Ophthalmology
      - Reconstruction (e.g. breast implant sizers)
    - General cleaning for regular instruments
- 6. Documentation
  - a. Critical steps
    - Soak times
    - Sink cleaning set points, temperature, time, etc.
    - Maintenance
    - Leak test results
    - Washer/ultrasonic verification tests
    - Soil detection tests
- 7. Quality Control Testing Process
  - a. Appropriate use of washer/ultrasonic tests including but not limited to:
    - Placement

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- Frequency
  - Interpretation
  - Troubleshooting failures
- b. Appropriate use of soil detection tests, including but not limited to:
- Placement
  - Frequency
  - Interpretation
  - Troubleshooting failures