
Yale New Haven Health

Department of Central Sterile Supply

Process #ASS006 Inspection Laparoscopic Instruments Standard Operating Procedure

Original:
Last Reviewed:
Approved by:

Purpose: To provide the procedures to inspect laparoscopic instruments.

Definitions:

Background:

PPE required:

- Head covering
- Clean surgical scrub attire
- Beard covers as required
- Masks

Equipment/tools required

- Lighted magnification (preferred, but optional)
- Magnifying glass
- Insulation Integrity Tester with instructions for use

Procedures:

1. Inspect laparoscopic instruments each time they are processed
 - a. Inspect shaft for straightness
 - b. Inspect ratchet function
 - c. Inspect jaws for grasping ability
2. Check that instrument is clean
 - a. Inspect jaws and hinges
 - b. Inspect lumens
3. Inspect for physical damage
 - a. Missing or broken cautery posts
 - b. Missing or cracked insulation
 - c. Missing or broken components
 - i. Handles
 - ii. Inserts
 - iii. Shafts

4. Inspect scissors for sharpness
 - a. Use yellow test material or nonlatex glove cuff– scissor should cut cleanly through
 - b. Ensure no testing material is present on scissor following testing procedure
5. Test insulation for conductivity
 - a. Follow manufacturer's directions for use
 - b. Replace any instrument that fails integrity test for insulation conductivity
 - c. Send broken instrument for repair
6. Reassemble instruments as instructed by manufacturer to ensure functionality
 - a. Test that jaws open and close, scissors cut, and forceps tips approximate
 - b. It may be necessary to disassemble instruments following inspection and prior to sterilization
 - i. Consult manufacturer's instructions for sterilization
7. Notify supervisor if functionality is in question