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# Yale New Haven Health

*Department of Central Sterile Supply*

## Process #ASS006 Inspection Laparoscopic Instruments Standard Operating Procedure

Original:  
Last Reviewed:  
Approved by:

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**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