
Yale New Haven Health

Department of Central Sterile Supply

Process #ASS002 Inspection Fiberoptic Light Cords Standard Operating Procedure

Original:
Last Reviewed:
Approved by:

Purpose: To provide the procedures for inspection of fiberoptic light cords each time they are processed.

Definitions:

Background:

- Head covering
- Mask
- Facial hair covering (if applicable)
- Clean surgical scrub attire

Equipment/tools required

- Direct light source – optional
- Indirect light source

Procedures:

1. Inspect fiberoptic light cords each time they are processed
 - a. Inspect cords of nicks, cuts, burns, holes, kinks
 - i Replace light cord if damage is noted
 - ii Send light cord for repair
2. Check that cord is clean
 - a. Inspect cord
 - b. Inspect connections and adaptors (if applicable)
 - i Adaptors should be removed for sterilization unless otherwise directed by manufacturer's instructions for sterilization
 - ii Make sure all adaptors are packaged with the light cord for sterilization
3. Inspect light fibers
 - a. Hold one end of fiberoptic cord to indirect lighting source (ex. ceiling light)
 - b. View other end of fiberoptic cord. Bright light should be seen
 - i Replace cord if 15-20% of fibers are broken (noted as black dots on surface of connector) Perhaps 25% i.e. one quarter
4. If functionality is in doubt after Step 3, use light source to test quality and quantity of light
5. Notify supervisor if functionality is in question

