OpsAuditHub opsauditihub.com	DOC ID: **SAF-0148**	REVISION: **Rev 2.4 (2026)**
	STANDARD: **CDC Guidelines for Infection Control in Dental Health-Care Settings & OSHA 29 CFR 1910.1030**	AUDIT FREQUENCY: **Daily / Weekly Operational Audit**

Dental Clinic Sterilization Log Inspection Checklist

Operational Scope: This operational checklist establishes mandatory verification protocols for dental instrument sterilization logs and equipment functionality. The primary objective is to mitigate cross-contamination risks and ensure full compliance with healthcare sterilization mandates.

MANDATORY PPE:	Disposable Nitrile Examination Gloves (ASTM D6319), Fluid-Resistant Surgical Mask with Eye Shield (ASTM F2100 Level 3), Fluid-Resistant Protective Gown (AAMI Level 2/3), Heavy-Duty Utility Gloves (Instrument Processing) (OSHA Bloodborne Pathogens Standard)
PREREQUISITES:	Verify calibration certificates for all active autoclaves and sterilization units are current. | Ensure sterilization log binders (digital or physical) are accessible and fully updated for the previous cycle. | Confirm availability of chemical indicators, biological spore test vials, and personal protective equipment.

STERILIZATION EQUIPMENT & PHYSICAL MONITORING

#	COMPONENT / ITEM	VERIFICATION CRITERIA & ACCEPTANCE STANDARD	SEVERITY	STATUS
1	**Autoclave Chamber & Gasket Seal**	Chamber interior is free of debris, scale, and mineral buildup. Rubber gasket is pliable, uncracked, and forms an airtight seal.	**Critical (Immediate Out of Service)**	[ ] PASS [ ] FAIL [ ] N/A
2	**Cycle Parameter Verification**	Temperature, pressure, and exposure time gauges align precisely with manufacturer specifications for each run cycle.	**Critical (Immediate Out of Service)**	[ ] PASS [ ] FAIL [ ] N/A
3	**Printer & Digital Data Logger**	Cycle tape printer outputs legibly or digital data files export correctly, recording exact time, temperature, and pressure metrics.	**Warning**	[ ] PASS [ ] FAIL [ ] N/A

BIOLOGICAL AND CHEMICAL INDICATOR COMPLIANCE

#	COMPONENT / ITEM	VERIFICATION CRITERIA & ACCEPTANCE STANDARD	SEVERITY	STATUS
4	**Spore Testing (Biological Indicator)**	Weekly spore test (Geobacillus stearothermophilus) completed, incubated, and negative growth result recorded in the log.	**Critical (Immediate Out of Service)**	[ ] PASS [ ] FAIL [ ] N/A
5	**Chemical Indicator Strips (Internal/External)**	Multi-parameter internal chemical indicator changed color correctly inside every processed cassette or instrument pouch.	**Critical (Immediate Out of Service)**	[ ] PASS [ ] FAIL [ ] N/A
6	**Bowie-Dick Test (Pre-vacuum Sterilizers)**	Daily residual air removal test executed successfully on dynamic-air-removal steam sterilizers prior to first clinical load.	**Critical (Immediate Out of Service)**	[ ] PASS [ ] FAIL [ ] N/A

LOGBOOK DOCUMENTATION & PACKAGE INTEGRITY

#	COMPONENT / ITEM	VERIFICATION CRITERIA & ACCEPTANCE STANDARD	SEVERITY	STATUS
7	**Sterilization Log Completeness**	Log accurately records load number, date, cycle parameters, operator initials, and all biological/chemical test results without missing entries.	**Warning**	[ ] PASS [ ] FAIL [ ] N/A
8	**Instrument Pouch & Packaging Integrity**	Processed pouches are completely sealed, undamaged, dry upon cycle completion, and display properly transformed process indicator ink.	**Critical (Immediate Out of Service)**	[ ] PASS [ ] FAIL [ ] N/A
9	**Storage & Expiration Date Tracking**	Sterile packs are stored in clean, dry, closed cabinetry and labeled with expiration dates or event-related storage protocols.	**Standard**	[ ] PASS [ ] FAIL [ ] N/A

Certified Dental Infection Control Coordinator Signature: _____	**Date / Time:** _____	**Badge / Cert #:** _____
Clinic Operations Director / Compliance Officer Sign-off: _____	**Review Date:** _____	**Audit Status:** [ ] Approved [ ] Rectify

COMPLIANCE NOTICE: This document must be archived for a minimum of 36 months or per state-specific board of dentistry requirements in accordance with healthcare recordkeeping guidelines.

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