



Case Study

Acute Care Facility: Central Sterile Processing Practices



Instrument processing constitutes one of the major contributors to the operational effectiveness of perioperative services.

AORN Works, Inc. was contacted to assist a facility which was experiencing instrument processing issues that had negatively impacted operational effectiveness in the perioperative arena.

CLIENT: Acute Care Facility, Perioperative Services

ENGAGEMENT: Onsite Consultation

PURPOSE OF THE CONSULTATION: AORN Works, Inc. was engaged to conduct an operational assessment of the perioperative services and the instrument processing practices.

PROCESS: Consultants conducted an operational assessment that included an evaluation of perioperative clinical operations, infection control practices, environmental issues, instrument processing practices and organizational culture.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Improve physical environment by “cleaning up and cleaning out clutter.”
2. Develop specific cleaning schedule and institute environmental rounds.
3. Collaborate with surgeons to standardize prep.
4. Implement Bloodborne Pathogen Standard for use of PPE.
5. Develop performance competencies for staff.

RESULTS:

1. Improved central sterile processing practices.
2. Developed PI monitors for perioperative infection control practices.
3. Addressed environmental issues.



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