



Dental Nurse Network
Professional growth for dental nurses

Level 2 Certificate: Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) Lead Module 5

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Module 5 Aim

For students to gain further knowledge and understanding of the tests and audits required for a dental practice.



Module 5 Objectives

By the end of this module, students will be able to:

- Demonstrate knowledge of the daily and weekly tests required.
- Describe confidently how to complete all essential logs.
- Create a steriliser log book to comply with HTM 01-05.

(continued)



Module 5 Objectives (continued)

- Describe points to be considered when buying/replacing dental equipment.
- List the stages in completing a foil test.
- Describe single-use items and their importance.
- Demonstrate knowledge of how to use infection control audits and of their frequency.
- Explain how to conduct the perfect spot-check and what to look for.



Steriliser Daily Tests

- Test cycle to warm up your steriliser
- Free from instruments, have all trays present, and have a test strip inside.



Steriliser Daily Tests

Steriliser Daily Test Sheet

Unit Number: _____
Unit Name: _____

Check the steriliser is working correctly and the cycle is correct.

Parameter	Target	Actual	Pass/Fail
Temperature	121°C		
Pressure	15 psi		
Time	15 min		
Water level	Full		
Drainage	Good		
Test strip	Correct colour		

Signature: _____
Date: _____



Steriliser Daily Tests

Dental Practice: _____ Location: _____ Serial No: _____ Start Date: _____

Date	Cycle No	Start Time	Selected Cycle	Load Description	Cycle Pass	Physical Checked OK	Comments and Operator Initials
				XLA / RCT / Imp / Xray / FR / Hsp / Ortho / Details			
				XLA / RCT / Imp / Xray / FR / Hsp / Ortho / Details			
				XLA / RCT / Imp / Xray / FR / Hsp / Ortho / Details			
				XLA / RCT / Imp / Xray / FR / Hsp / Ortho / Details			
				XLA / RCT / Imp / Xray / FR / Hsp / Ortho / Details			
				XLA / RCT / Imp / Xray / FR / Hsp / Ortho / Details			



Ultrasonic Bath

Daily tests are required on the ultrasonic bath to ensure that it is working correctly.

	Clean Solution made AM Session By	Test Cycle complete to De gas By	Clean Solution made PM Session By	Drained and Cleaned at the end of the clinical day By
Monday				
Tuesday				
Wednesday				
Thursday				
Friday				
Saturday				
Sunday				



Washer-Disinfector Daily Tests

Dental Practice: _____
IPC Lead: _____
Start Date of this Form: _____

	Filters and Strainers removed and cleaned	Test Cycle Completed	Visual Load Inspection Completed	Initials
Monday	Yes / No	Yes / No	Yes / No	
Tuesday	Yes / No	Yes / No	Yes / No	
Wednesday	Yes / No	Yes / No	Yes / No	
Thursday	Yes / No	Yes / No	Yes / No	
Friday	Yes / No	Yes / No	Yes / No	
Saturday	Yes / No	Yes / No	Yes / No	
Sunday	Yes / No	Yes / No	Yes / No	

Faults Log		
Date	Comments	Initials



Steriliser Weekly Test

Week Beginning	Cycle Number	Automatic air leakage test result Pass/Fail	Residual air test Pass/Fail	Automatic control test result Pass/Fail	Steam penetration test Pass/Fail N/A	Weekly safety checks Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory	Certified fit for use by user
		P / F	P / F	P / F	P / F N/A	S / U	
		P / F	P / F	P / F	P / F N/A	S / U	
		P / F	P / F	P / F	P / F N/A	S / U	
		P / F	P / F	P / F	P / F N/A	S / U	
		P / F	P / F	P / F	P / F N/A	S / U	
		P / F	P / F	P / F	P / F N/A	S / U	
		P / F	P / F	P / F	P / F N/A	S / U	

Weekly safety checks (tick if satisfactory)

Week Beginning	Cycle Number	Door Seal	Door Pressure Interlock	Door closed Interlock	Satisfactory / Unsatisfactory	Tested By
					S / U	
					S / U	
					S / U	
					S / U	

Ultrasonic Bath Weekly Test

You are required to complete the following weekly tests on the ultrasonic bath:

- Protein residue test.
- Soil test.



Ultrasonic Bath Weekly Test

Quarterly Foil Test Next Due:

Week 1

Date	Protein Test	Batch No	Expiry Date	Initials
Date	Soil Test	Batch No	Expiry Date	Initials



Washer-Disinfecter Weekly Test

Washer-disinfecter Weekly Tests

Dental Practice:

IPC Lead:

Week 1

Date	Protein Test	Batch No	Expiry Date	Initials
Date	Door Seal Checked / Comments			Initials

Week 2

Date	Protein Test	Batch No	Expiry Date	Initials
Date	Door Seal Checked / Comments			Initials



Steriliser Log Book

In HTM 01-05 Chapter 11, it states the following:

'Documentation provides the only evidence of completed work. Absence of documentation for any work item will indicate omission of that item. It is important that all documentation relating to decontamination equipment is up-to-date and is retained locally for audit/inspection purposes.'



Steriliser Log Book

Each steriliser should have its own log book. In each log book, the following should be present:

- Validation report, ideally from an authorising engineer.
- Performance qualification details.
- Log book of periodic testing.
- Log book of plant history.
- Process log.
- Training and competency records.



Building a Steriliser Log Book - Page 1

Steriliser Log Book Summary		
Steam Steriliser Details		
Dental Practice	Room	Make
Model	Serial No.	Serial No.
Contents - Use following times		
Steam Test Sheet	Yes	Purpose
Weekly test sheet	No	A record of all daily testing
Quarterly and yearly test sheet	No	A record of all daily testing
Quarterly and yearly test sheet	No	Component persons (QC) Load quarterly and yearly test sheet
Yearly history record	Yes	History of the weekly, quarterly and yearly tests
Autoclave history record sheet	Yes	Record of all faults, maintenance and repairs to the steriliser
Process log sheet	No	Provides a record of every sterilisation process
Personnel		
Name/Organisation	Signature/Print	
Registered Manager		
User		
Operator		
Infection Control Nurse		
Competent Person (Pressure Vessel)		
Authorised Person		
Decontamination		
Competent Person		



Building a Steriliser Log Book - Page 2

Steriliser Daily Test Sheet											
Dental Practice											
Room No.											
Machine No.											
Date											
Time											
Operator											
Infection Control Nurse											
Competent Person (Pressure Vessel)											
Authorised Person											
Decontamination											
Competent Person											



Building a Steriliser Log Book - Page 3

Dental Practice:		Location:		Serial No:		Start Date:	
Date	Cycle No	Start Time	Selected Cycle	Load Description	Cycle Pass	Visual Checked OK	Comments and Operator Initials
				XLA / RCT / Imp / Xray / FR / Hps / Ortho / Details			
				XLA / RCT / Imp / Xray / FR / Hps / Ortho / Details			
				XLA / RCT / Imp / Xray / FR / Hps / Ortho / Details			
				XLA / RCT / Imp / Xray / FR / Hps / Ortho / Details			
				XLA / RCT / Imp / Xray / FR / Hps / Ortho / Details			
				XLA / RCT / Imp / Xray / FR / Hps / Ortho / Details			



Building a Steriliser Log Book - Page 7

There should be copies of the quarterly and yearly steriliser tests. These are usually carried out by an engineer and will include:

Quarterly:

- Thermometric tests



Building a Steriliser Log Book - Page 7

Yearly:

Steam generator overheat cut-out test

- Thermometric tests
- Small load
- Large load



Building a Steriliser Log Book - Page 7

Yearly:

Dryness tests

- Small load
- Large load



Building a Steriliser Log Book

In the back of this file, you are required to place:

- Validation report from engineer.
- Training and competency certificates.
- History from the previous six months of tests before archiving within the dental practice.



Buying New Equipment

You should also think about the following:

- Size.
- Model.
- Type.



Buying New Equipment

Important questions to ask include:

- Can the piece of equipment you are choosing match your workload requirements?
- Do you have the space?
- Is service infrastructure available?



Buying New Equipment

Other main points to take into consideration are:

- Will it be fit for purpose and compatible with other equipment?
- What are the manufacturer's recommendations for staff training, and are they achievable?
- Do the cleaning agents recommended comply with COSHH and health and safety requirements?
- What commissioning and validation is required, and are there ongoing costs?



Buying New Equipment

The most important features to consider when purchasing a new ultrasonic bath are:

- Compliance with electrical safety regulations.
- A polished, stainless-steel construction with rounded corners to aid cleaning.
- A reservoir drainage system that does not leave pools of fluid.
- Integral purpose-built holding basket.
- An auto-locking hinged lid (if this isn't available, HTM 01-05 states that a clear label should warn users not to put their hands in the device when it is activated).



Foil Testing

You will need:

- Adhesive tape such as masking tape.
- Aluminium foil.
- Watch or clock with a second hand.
- Ruler or tape measure.



Foil Testing

Method:

- 1) Cut foil into lengths of 120mm (longer than the bath is deep).
 - 2) Roll up one end of each of the foil strips so they are now as long as the bath is deep.
 - 3) Ensure the bath is filled with the correct amount of water and detergent and is at the correct temperature.
 - 4) Place on a test cycle to de-gas.
- (continued)



Foil Testing (continued)

- 5) Create a 3 x 3 grid across the top of the bath with the adhesive tape.
 - 6) Suspend nine foil strips across the grid, ensuring that the rolled-up ends are near the bottom of the bath but not touching the floor of the bath.
 - 7) Number the foil strips 1-9.
- (continued)



Foil Testing (continued)

- 8) Place the bath on a normal cycle as stated in the manufacturer's instructions.
- 9) Remove the foil strips carefully, blotting them dry and sellotaping them in number order onto a plain sheet of paper.
- 10) Your bath should now be drained and cleaned to ensure foil particles are removed.



Foil Testing

Test results

Satisfactory

On examination of the foils, areas showing maximum erosion should be at a similar position on all nine foils, and they should be eroded to a similar extent. This shows the waves are consistent throughout the bath.



Foil Testing

Test results

Unsatisfactory

If the foils do not pass as satisfactory on examination, a re-test should be performed. If the pattern is not consistent on both tests, this indicates poor uniformity of cleaning.



Foil Testing

Reasons for failure

- Poor uniformity
- Significant changes between tests
- No erosion pattern



Single-Use Items

Single-use items should be used where instruments are difficult to clean.

In dentistry, this should include:

- Matrix bands.
- Saliva ejectors.
- Aspirator tips.
- 3-in-1 tips.



IPC Audits

- Available to the inspecting bodies when needed.
- Audit documents should be kept for a minimum of two years



IPC Audits

Stated in HTM 01-05:

- IPS Audit 6 monthly - this can be found and downloaded online.

Recommended to ensure full compliance and keep on top of changes:

- Hand Hygiene Quarterly
- Personal Protective Equipment Quarterly
- Sterilization Process Quarterly
- Hazardous Waste Quarterly



IPC Audits

Spot Check

- Clean and uncluttered
- Consumables all in date
- Free from dust and dirt
- All checklists completed
- Surgery is zoned correctly
- Watch them treat a patient and wipe down



Summary: Module 5

- Daily and weekly tests
- Building the steriliser log book
- Buying new equipment
- Audits and spot checks
- Single use items


