Applicable to: Perioperative Services
Team Members Performing: Anesthesia Technician
Endoscopy Technician
Operating Room Technical Assistant (ORTA)

I. Purpose:

Provide guidance for the handling and reprocessing laryngoscope blades in the perioperative area.

II. Procedure:

A. Anesthesia Technician Responsibilities

1. The anesthesia provider will place all open/dirty laryngoscope blades in the designated container. Container should be lined with a single use plastic bag.

2. Remove plastic bag containing laryngoscope blades and transport closed bag to the decontamination area.

3. When decontaminating laryngoscopes blades wear the appropriate personal protective equipment (gown, gloves, mask and face shield).

4. Clean blade using the appropriate amount of enzymatic detergent solution.

5. Use a soft cloth and/or soft bristle brush to clean surface of blade and hard to reach areas.

6. Clean laryngoscope blade until all visible soil has been removed.

7. Thoroughly rinse blades using clean tap water.

8. Dry blade using a clean lint free cloth.
9. Place clean laryngoscope blades in the clean endoscopy room in your designated area.

10. Once laryngoscope blades have been cleaned, transport blades to the designated location for sterilization.
   - Blades used in TVC and VOR are sterilized in the VOR area by Endoscopy Techs.
   - Blades used in 4South and MCE are processed in the MCE area by the ORTA’s.
   - **On weekends (Sat/Sun) the ORTA’s in the VOR are responsible for sterilizing laryngoscope blades.**

B. **Endoscopy Technician and ORTA Responsibilities**

1. Place clean laryngoscope blades in a Flash Pak along with the chemical integrator.

2. Confirm and document sterilization information and integrator results in the appropriate log.

3. Once sterilization cycle has completed allow blades to cool prior to handling.

4. Notify anesthesia technician when blades are ready for packaging.

C. **Anesthesia Technician Responsibilities**

1. Transport the Flash Pak back to the clean anesthesia work area for packaging. In the event that blades are processed in an open pan, blades are to be packaged in the Endo room following steps 2-5.

2. Don gloves when handling blades.

3. Use a clean dry towel to thoroughly dry blades before placing them inside of the self-seal sterility maintenance covers.

4. Store laryngoscope blades in a clean dry area.

5. Store laryngoscope blades in an organized manner so not to damage packaging when handling.

6. Open laryngoscope blades must be reprocessed and packaged.