

# Steps to Cleaning and Sterilising Instruments

## 1. Dirty instrument

- Place instrument in 'dirty' instrument bowl/container
- Wear PPE (e.g. gloves, apron, & mask)
- Transfer to cleaning area



## 2. Cleaning

- Open the instrument and rinse in a sink of warm water. Hot water may cause blood and other matter to stick to the items. (Soaking in some disinfectants may also cause blood to stick)
- Use a detergent recommended by the manufacturer
- Scrub with a brush to remove any grime (to reduce the generation of aerosols scrub underwater)



## 3. Ultrasonic cleaner

- Very efficient
- Suitable for some instruments
- Carry out a foil test (see AS 2773.2)



## 4. Packaging

- Ensure instruments are properly dried use a lint free cloth or drying cabinet
- Open all instruments and place in package (pouch) without overlapping
- Seal the package properly do not use staples
- Label the package



## 5. Sterilisation

- TGA approved bench-top steriliser with drying cycle and print out facility (Comply with AS/NZS 4815:2006)
- No overlapping of packages
- Indicators can be placed in packages to confirm sterilisation has taken place (otherwise validation reports are required)



## 6. Storage

- Clean, dry area away from sunlight

