

## Policy Applies to:

All Mercy staff who handle medical devices and Credentialed Specialists who request the return of devices for teaching purpose.

This policy will be shared with external healthcare practices who utilise sterilising facilities at Mercy

## Related Standards:

- organisations
- Standard AS/NZS 5369:2023 — Reprocessing of reusable medical devices and other devices in health and non-health related facilities.
- Ngā Paerewa Health and Disability Services Standard NZS 8134:2021

## Rationale:

To ensure that there is an effective process to evaluate requests for the reprocessing of single use items in accordance with approved guidelines and standards.

## Cultural Considerations:

There are no identified cultural considerations for this policy.

## Definitions:

### *Single Use / Single patient use*

A medical device which has been labelled by the manufacturer as sterile 'single use' or 'single patient use' is intended for one use on one patient only.

### *Reuse or Reprocess*

The cleaning, inspection, packaging and sterilisation of a sterile 'single use' or 'single patient use' medical device. for the intention of using on a patient.

## Objectives

- To identify situations where single-use items can be safely reused
- To ensure the process for the reuse and/or return of medical devices is robust and safe.

## Criteria for Reprocessing Assessment

- Single-use medical device that is to be used in a sterile manner, which has been opened but not used.
- Unopened sterile single-use medical device which has expired.
- Cleaning and reprocessing of single use item that is unused but no longer sterile, required by Credentialed Specialise for teaching purposes.

### Implementation

- All requests for single-use medical device reprocessing must be made to the CSSD Team Leader by Mercy Staff or Credentialed Specialist
- Staff making requests are required to provide relevant supporting documentation from the manufacturer which validates the reuse and reprocessing of the single-use item
- Explanation of intended use for teaching purposes is provided to CSSD Team Leader to determine safety of returning single-use item.
- Single use items that are reprocessed will be reported by the CSSD Team Leader to the Infection Prevention and Control Committee.

### Evaluation:

- Documented manufacturer's instructions for each approved re-use item
- Tracking Record for monitoring of each approved item: kept in CSSD and archived Monthly
- Infection Prevention and Control Committee report.

### Associated Documents:

#### Internal

- Standard Precautions Policy
- Product Evaluation Policy
- Infection Prevention and Control Committee Terms of Reference.

### Acknowledgements

- CDHB Reprocessing of Single-use Medical Devices 2021
- BoPDHB Reuse of Single-use Medical Devices 2022