ASC Quality Collaboration

Single-Use Device Reprocessing: What CMS Surveyors Are Looking For

CMS surveyors use a worksheet to assess infection control practices during ASC surveys. The section of the worksheet used to assess practices related to reprocessing of single-use devices is reproduced below. **Because this the SAME TOOL a CMS surveyor will use to assess these infection control practices, it is also a useful SELF-ASSESSMENT tool for an ASC.**

Unless otherwise indicated, a "No" response to any question below will be cited as a deficient practice.

III. Single Use Devices, Sterilization, and High Level Disinfection

Pre-cleaning must always be performed prior to sterilization and high-level disinfection

Sterilization must be performed for critical equipment (i.e., instruments and equipment that enter normally sterile tissue or the vascular system, such as surgical instruments)

High-level disinfection must be performed for semi-critical equipment (i.e., items that come into contact with non-intact skin or mucous membranes such as reusable flexible endoscopes, laryngoscope blades)

Observations are to be made of staff *performing* equipment reprocessing (e.g., surgical techs), unless these activities are performed under contract or arrangement off-site from the ASC.

Unless otherwise indicated, a "No" response to any question below **must** be cited as a deficient practice in relation to 42 CFR 416.51(a).

SINGLE-USE DEVICES

(Choose N/A if single-use devices are never reprocessed and used again) (Surveyor to confirm there is a contract or other documentation of an arrangement with a reprocessing facility by viewing it)

Practices to be Assessed		Was Practice Performed?	*Surveyor Notes*
A.	a. If single-use devices are reprocessed, they are devices that are approved by the FDA for reprocessing	○ Yes ○ No ○ N/A	
	b. If single-use devices are reprocessed, they are reprocessed by an FDA-approved reprocessor.	○ Yes ○ No ○ N/A	