Process	Equipment	Examples of Items [1]	Products or Methods [2]
Cleaning Some items may require low level disinfection [3]	♦ All reusable equipment	♦ All reusable equipment, since such equipment requires cleaning after use and before further disinfection processes are initiated ♦ Certain environmental surfaces (i.e.. of dental lamps) touched by personnel during procedures involving parenteral or mucous membrane contact ♦ Bedpans, urinals, commodes ♦ Stethoscopes ♦ Blood pressure cuffs ♦ Ear specula ♦ Hemodialysis surfaces in contact with dialysate	♦ Physical removal of soil, dust or foreign material ♦ Chemical, thermal or mechanical aids may be used ♦ Cleaning usually involves soap and water, detergents or enzymatic agents ♦ Quaternary ammonium compounds ♦ Phenolics should not be used in nurseries ♦ Some iodophors ♦ 3% hydrogen peroxide
Cleaning followed by intermediate level disinfection [3]	♦ Some semi-critical items	♦ After large environmental blood spills or spills of microbial cultures in the laboratory ♦ Glass thermometers ♦ Electronic thermometers ♦ Hydrotherapy tanks used for patients whose skin is not intact. [3]	♦ Alcohols ♦ Hypochlorite solutions ♦ Iodophors ♦ Phenolics should not be used in nurseries.
Cleaning followed by high level disinfection	♦ Semicritical items	♦ Flexible endoscopes[3] ♦ Laryngoscopes [3] ♦ Respiratory therapy equipment [3] ♦ Nebulizer cups [3] ♦ Anaesthesia equipment [3] ♦ Endotrachial tubes [3] ♦ Nasal specula ♦ Tonometer foot plate [3] ♦ Ear syringe nozzles ♦ Vaginal specula ♦ Vaginal probes used in sonographic scanning [3] ♦ Pessary and diaphragm fitting rings [3] ♦ Breast pump accessories	♦ Items intended for sterilization in the plasma or EO sterilizers must be meticulously cleaned prior to sterilizing ♦ Pasteurization ♦ 2% glutaraldehyde ♦ 6% hydrogen peroxide ♦ Peracetic acid ♦ Chlorine or chlorine compounds
Cleaning followed by sterilization	♦ Critical items	♦ All items contacting sterile tissue ♦ Surgical instruments ♦ All implantable devices ♦ Needles and syringes ♦ Cardiac and urinary catheters ♦ Hemodialysis, plasmapheresis and heart-lung oxygenator surfaces in contact with blood ♦ All intravascular devices	♦ Steam under pressure ♦ Dry heat ♦ Ethylene oxide gas ♦ 2% glutaraldehyde ♦ 6 – 25% hydrogen peroxide ♦ Peracetic acid ♦ Chlorine dioxide ♦ 6 – 8%

Process	Equipment	Examples of Items [1]	Products or Methods [2]
		♦ Biopsy forceps or biopsy equipment associated with endoscopy equipment ♦ Bronchoscopes [3] ♦ Arthroscopes [3] ♦ Laparoscopes [3] ♦ Cystoscopes [3] ♦ Transfer forceps ♦ Acupuncture needles and body piercing objects ♦ Neurologic test needles ♦ Arterial pressure transducers [3] ♦ High speed dental handpieces ♦ All instruments used for footcare	
Cleaning Some items may require low level disinfection [3]	♦ All reusable equipment	♦ All reusable equipment, since such equipment requires cleaning after use and before further disinfection processes are initiated ♦ Certain environmental surfaces (i.e.. of dental lamps) touched by personnel during procedures involving parenteral or mucous membrane contact ♦ Bedpans, urinals, commodes ♦ Stethoscopes ♦ Blood pressure cuffs ♦ Ear specula ♦ Hemodialysis surfaces in contact with dialysate	♦ Physical removal of soil, dust or foreign material ♦ Chemical, thermal or mechanical aids may be used ♦ Cleaning usually involves soap and water, detergents or enzymatic agents ♦ Quaternary ammonium compounds ♦ Phenolics should not be used in nurseries ♦ Some iodophors ♦ 3% hydrogen peroxide
Cleaning followed by intermediate level disinfection [3]	♦ Some semi-critical items	♦ After large environmental blood spills or spills of microbial cultures in the laboratory ♦ Glass thermometers ♦ Electronic thermometers ♦ Hydrotherapy thanks used for patients whose skin is not intact. [3]	♦ Alcohols ♦ Hypochlorite solutions ♦ Iodophors ♦ Phenolics should not be used in nurseries.
Cleaning followed by high level disinfection	♦ Semicritical items	♦ H Flexible endoscopes[3] ♦ Laryngoscopes [3] ♦ Respiratory therapy equipment [3] ♦ Nebulizer cups [3] ♦ Anaesthesia equipment [3] ♦ Endotrachial tubes [3] ♦ Nasal specula ♦ Tonometer foot plate [3] ♦ Ear syringe nozzles ♦ Vaginal specula ♦ Vaginal probes used in sonographic scanning [3] ♦ Pessary and diaphragm fitting rings [3] ♦ Breast pump accessories	♦ Items intended for sterilization in the plasma or EO sterilizers must be meticulously cleaned prior to sterilizing ♦ Pasteurization ♦ 2% glutaraldehyde ♦ 6% hydrogen peroxide ♦ Peracetic acid ♦ Chlorine or chlorine compounds

Process	Equipment	Examples of Items [1]	Products or Methods [2]
Cleaning followed by steril-ization	♦ Critical items	♦ All items contacting sterile tissue ♦ Surgical instruments ♦ All implantable devices ♦ Needles and syringes ♦ Cardiac and urinary catheters ♦ Hemodialysis, plasmapheresis and heart-lung oxygenator surfaces in contact with blood ♦ All intravascular devices ♦ Biopsy forceps or biopsy equipment associated with endoscopy equipment ♦ Bronchoscopes [3] ♦ Arthroscopes [3] ♦ Laparoscopes [3] ♦ Cystoscopes [3] ♦ Transfer forceps ♦ Acupuncture needles and body piercing objects ♦ Neurologic test needles ♦ Arterial pressure transducers [3] ♦ High speed dental handpieces ♦ All instruments used for footcare	♦ Steam under pressure ♦ Dry heat ♦ Ethylene oxide gas ♦ 2% glutaraldehyde ♦ 6 – 25% hydrogen peroxide ♦ Peracetic acid ♦ Chlorine dioxide ♦ 6 – 8%

1. For products that appear in two categories, manufacturers' directions differ for length of exposure time and concentration

2. Manufacturers' recommendations for concentration and exposure time must be followed

3. For guidelines regarding disinfection, refer to comprehensive discussion of disinfection issues.