

# Medical Device Reprocessing Association of Ontario (MDRAO) Practice Exam (Sample)

## Study Guide



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**SAMPLE**

## **Questions**

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- 1. Where can containers be stored in the storage area?**
  - A. Only on the bottom shelf**
  - B. On any shelf**
  - C. On the top shelf only**
  - D. In designated areas only**
- 2. What are the types of generations commonly recognized in the workplace?**
  - A. Millennials, Generation Z, Generation X, Generation Baby Boomer**
  - B. Traditionalists, Baby Boomers, Generation X, Generation Y**
  - C. Generation Y, Generation Z, Baby Boomers, Silent Generation**
  - D. Generation X, Generation Y, Generation Z, Traditionalists**
- 3. In which area are items identified for repair within the reprocessing workflow?**
  - A. Storage area**
  - B. Decontamination area**
  - C. Assembly area**
  - D. Distribution area**
- 4. What is the first step in a washer disinfectant cycle?**
  - A. Wash with detergent**
  - B. Rinse**
  - C. Disinfection**
  - D. Pre-rinse to rehydrate blood and remove soil**
- 5. Which of the following describes indirect contact transmission?**
  - A. Touching contaminated surfaces**
  - B. Direct handshaking**
  - C. Foodborne illness**
  - D. Sharing personal items**

- 6. Which of the following are critical process variables for Ethylene oxide sterilization?**
- A. Time, pressure, humidity**
  - B. Temperature, time, gas concentration**
  - C. Temperature, humidity, pressure**
  - D. Time, concentration, cooling**
- 7. What does a top-up system in supply management do?**
- A. Identifies product usage**
  - B. Tracks item expiration dates**
  - C. Controls inventory levels**
  - D. Organizes storage spaces**
- 8. What are the main components of bacterial microorganisms?**
- A. Nucleic material, cytoplasm, and bacteria membrane**
  - B. Membrane, ribosomes, and organelles**
  - C. Nucleic material, flagella, and meiosis**
  - D. Nucleic material, cytoplasm, membrane, cell wall, flagella, fimbriae**
- 9. Do biopsy forceps require sterilization as a critical device?**
- A. Yes, they must be sterilized**
  - B. No, they do not require sterilization**
  - C. Only if used on organic tissues**
  - D. Neither sterilization nor disinfection is needed**
- 10. How often should counters and floors in the MDRD be cleaned?**
- A. Weekly**
  - B. Daily**
  - C. Monthly**
  - D. Yearly**

## **Answers**

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- 1. B**
- 2. B**
- 3. C**
- 4. D**
- 5. A**
- 6. B**
- 7. A**
- 8. D**
- 9. A**
- 10. B**

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## **Explanations**

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## 1. Where can containers be stored in the storage area?

- A. Only on the bottom shelf
- B. On any shelf**
- C. On the top shelf only
- D. In designated areas only

Storing containers on any shelf is appropriate as it allows for flexible and efficient use of space in the storage area. This practice contributes to the overall organization and accessibility of materials, making it easier to retrieve items as needed. Proper use of vertical storage helps maximize the area and can also prevent clutter. However, it's important to keep in mind that while containers can be placed on any shelf, they should be stored in a manner that ensures safety, stability, and compliance with storage protocols. This includes considering factors such as weight distribution, size of the containers, and ensuring that heavier items are stored lower down to prevent accidents. Other options suggest limitations that could hinder efficient storage practices. For example, restricting storage to only the bottom shelf would lead to underutilization of space, while storing only on the top shelf may make access difficult. Designating specific areas for storage could potentially complicate the process unless there are clear and compelling reasons to do so, such as in environments with strict regulatory or safety requirements. Therefore, the flexibility of storing containers on any shelf promotes better organization and accessibility in the storage area.

## 2. What are the types of generations commonly recognized in the workplace?

- A. Millennials, Generation Z, Generation X, Generation Baby Boomer
- B. Traditionalists, Baby Boomers, Generation X, Generation Y**
- C. Generation Y, Generation Z, Baby Boomers, Silent Generation
- D. Generation X, Generation Y, Generation Z, Traditionalists

The recognition of generations in the workplace is based on various social, economic, and technological factors that shape the experiences and values of each group. The correct grouping identified in the selected choice is Traditionalists, Baby Boomers, Generation X, and Generation Y. Each of these generations has distinct characteristics and influences on work culture. For instance, Traditionalists, also known as the Silent Generation, are typically characterized by their strong work ethic and loyalty to their employers, qualities forged during times of hardship such as the Great Depression and World War II. Baby Boomers, born in the post-war era, are often recognized for their strong focus on teamwork and collaborative work environments, as well as having been significantly influenced by the civil rights movements and technological advancements of their time. Generation X, often referred to as the 'latchkey generation,' has a reputation for being resourceful and independent, frequently valuing work-life balance. Generation Y, commonly known as Millennials, are characterized by their tech-savviness and desire for meaningful work, often associated with being the first to grow up with the internet and social media. Understanding these generational characteristics is vital in a workplace since it helps organizations tailor their engagement strategies, communication styles, and policy designs to suit the

**3. In which area are items identified for repair within the reprocessing workflow?**

- A. Storage area**
- B. Decontamination area**
- C. Assembly area**
- D. Distribution area**

Items identified for repair within the reprocessing workflow are typically found in the assembly area. This is the stage in the reprocessing process where instruments and devices are inspected, reassembled, and tested after cleaning and prior to being sent out for use. During assembly, technicians can routinely assess items for functionality and integrity, allowing them to identify any equipment that requires repair before it is sterilized and packaged for distribution. In other areas of the reprocessing workflow, such as the decontamination area, the focus is primarily on cleaning and disinfecting items, rather than assessing them for repair. The storage area is meant for holding already reprocessed and sterilized items, and the distribution area is where these items are prepared for delivery to users. Thus, identifying items for repair is a critical function performed during the assembly process, ensuring that all instruments are in proper working order before they are used in patient care.

**4. What is the first step in a washer disinfectant cycle?**

- A. Wash with detergent**
- B. Rinse**
- C. Disinfection**
- D. Pre-rinse to rehydrate blood and remove soil**

The first step in a washer disinfectant cycle is to pre-rinse to rehydrate blood and remove soil. This initial phase is critical because it prepares the items for more effective cleaning during the subsequent wash cycles. By rehydrating organic materials, such as blood and other biological substances, the process facilitates the removal of these contaminants. Effective pre-rinsing helps to prevent the drying of soil, which can make it more difficult to eliminate during washing. Following the pre-rinse, the washer disinfectant goes through multiple additional steps, including washing with detergent, rinsing, and finally disinfection, but the initial pre-rinse is essential for optimal outcomes in the entire reprocessing cycle. This sequence ensures that the devices not only meet requisite cleanliness standards but also maintain safety and efficacy for future use.

**5. Which of the following describes indirect contact transmission?**

- A. Touching contaminated surfaces**
- B. Direct handshaking**
- C. Foodborne illness**
- D. Sharing personal items**

Indirect contact transmission refers to the spread of infectious agents through contaminated surfaces or objects. When a person touches a contaminated surface and then later touches their face or another mucous membrane, they can introduce pathogens into their body, leading to infection. In the context of the options provided, touching contaminated surfaces clearly embodies this concept, as it involves an intermediary (the surface) through which the pathogen is transmitted. This mode of transmission highlights the importance of proper cleaning, disinfection, and hygiene practices to mitigate the risk of infection. The other options, while related to transmission, involve different forms of contact. Direct handshaking refers to transmission through immediate skin-to-skin interaction, foodborne illness pertains to pathogens entering the body through ingestion, and sharing personal items often involves close proximity but does not clearly define the intermediary surface or object in the same way as touching a contaminated surface does.

**6. Which of the following are critical process variables for Ethylene oxide sterilization?**

- A. Time, pressure, humidity**
- B. Temperature, time, gas concentration**
- C. Temperature, humidity, pressure**
- D. Time, concentration, cooling**

The correct answer highlights the critical process variables for ethylene oxide sterilization, which are indeed temperature, time, and gas concentration. Ethylene oxide is a commonly used gas for sterilizing medical devices that cannot withstand the high temperatures associated with steam sterilization. In this process, each of the identified variables plays a crucial role in achieving effective sterilization: - **Temperature**: The effectiveness of ethylene oxide sterilization increases with temperature. Higher temperatures facilitate the penetration of ethylene oxide into materials and enhance the sterilization process. However, there are limits to the temperature based on the material being sterilized, so careful control is required. - **Time**: The exposure time is critical for ensuring that the ethylene oxide has sufficient duration to interact with the microbial cells and achieve sterilization. Insufficient time can lead to survival of pathogens, rendering the sterilization ineffective. - **Gas Concentration**: The concentration of ethylene oxide is vital for the sterilization process. It must be maintained within an appropriate range to ensure that there is enough gas present to effectively sterilize the items being processed. In summary, the combination of these three factors is essential for ensuring a successful sterilization outcome when using ethylene oxide. Understanding and monitoring these variables

## 7. What does a top-up system in supply management do?

- A. Identifies product usage**
- B. Tracks item expiration dates**
- C. Controls inventory levels**
- D. Organizes storage spaces**

A top-up system in supply management primarily focuses on ensuring that inventory levels are maintained at optimal amounts to prevent stockouts or overstock situations. It typically involves monitoring usage patterns to determine when to replenish items, thereby aligning the supply with the actual demand in real time. The identification of product usage is critical because it informs the necessary actions to restock items at appropriate times, ensuring that there is always a sufficient quantity available for use. By understanding how quickly products are being consumed, the supply management system can automatically trigger reorder actions before items run out, enhancing overall efficiency and service delivery. While tracking item expiration dates, controlling inventory levels, and organizing storage spaces are important aspects of supply chain and inventory management, the primary function of a top-up system is to closely monitor and react to product usage trends. This allows for a more responsive and agile approach to inventory management.

## 8. What are the main components of bacterial microorganisms?

- A. Nucleic material, cytoplasm, and bacteria membrane**
- B. Membrane, ribosomes, and organelles**
- C. Nucleic material, flagella, and meiosis**
- D. Nucleic material, cytoplasm, membrane, cell wall, flagella, fimbriae**

The main components of bacterial microorganisms encompass a variety of structures essential for their survival and function. The correct response includes nucleic material, cytoplasm, membrane, cell wall, flagella, and fimbriae, all of which play crucial roles in the biology of bacteria. Nucleic material, primarily in the form of DNA, contains the genetic instructions necessary for the growth, development, and reproduction of the bacterium. The cytoplasm serves as the site for many metabolic processes, housing the ribosomes that are vital for protein synthesis. The membrane and cell wall provide structural support and protection, helping to maintain the integrity of the cell, regulate substance exchange, and confer resistance to environmental changes. Flagella are important for movement, allowing bacteria to swim towards nutrients or away from harmful substances, enhancing their ability to survive in diverse environments. Fimbriae, or pili, are short, hair-like structures that aid in adhesion to surfaces, which is crucial for colonization and infection in host organisms. This comprehensive understanding of bacterial structure is fundamental in microbiology and has significant implications for medical applications, including the development of antibiotics and understanding bacterial pathogenicity.

**9. Do biopsy forceps require sterilization as a critical device?**

- A. Yes, they must be sterilized**
- B. No, they do not require sterilization**
- C. Only if used on organic tissues**
- D. Neither sterilization nor disinfection is needed**

Biopsy forceps are classified as critical devices because they come into direct contact with sterile tissues and bodily fluids during medical procedures. Due to this level of risk associated with potential transmission of infections through such instruments, it is essential that they undergo sterilization. Sterilization is the process that eliminates all forms of viable microorganisms, ensuring that the forceps are safe for use in invasive procedures where any residual contamination could lead to severe infections or complications for the patient. The necessity for sterilization applies regardless of whether the biopsy forceps have been used on organic tissues or not. If they are reused, they must be properly cleaned and sterilized to meet safety protocols established by health regulations and standards. This approach is crucial to maintaining good practice in medical settings and protecting patient health. While some devices may not require sterilization if they are not critical or only come into contact with intact skin, this does not apply to biopsy forceps, reinforcing the importance of ensuring they are indeed sterilized before use.

**10. How often should counters and floors in the MDRD be cleaned?**

- A. Weekly**
- B. Daily**
- C. Monthly**
- D. Yearly**

In the context of cleaning standards within the Medical Device Reprocessing Department (MDRD), counters and floors should be cleaned daily to maintain a hygienic environment. This practice is essential because the MDRD is a critical area where contamination risks are higher due to the handling of medical devices, which must be aseptically processed to ensure patient safety. Regular daily cleaning helps to minimize the presence of microbial contamination and any organic matter that could compromise the reprocessing of medical devices. In healthcare settings, high-touch surfaces such as counters are prone to contamination and require frequent sanitation to comply with infection prevention protocols. Additionally, maintaining clean floors prevents the accumulation of dirt and potential biofilms, which can harbor pathogens. Thus, the daily cleaning regimen aligns with best practices in infection control and ensures an optimal environment for the reprocessing of medical devices.