

AESCULAP Aicon® STERILE CONTAINER SYSTEM TEST RESULTS

Scientific Information

BASE EDGE STERILITY

The tests investigated the bioburden along the edge rim of the AESCULAP Aicon® container base. The edge rim is deemed crucial during surgery, as items can briefly touch it when they are taken out. If the rim is not sterile, items would be contaminated.

TEST DESCRIPTION

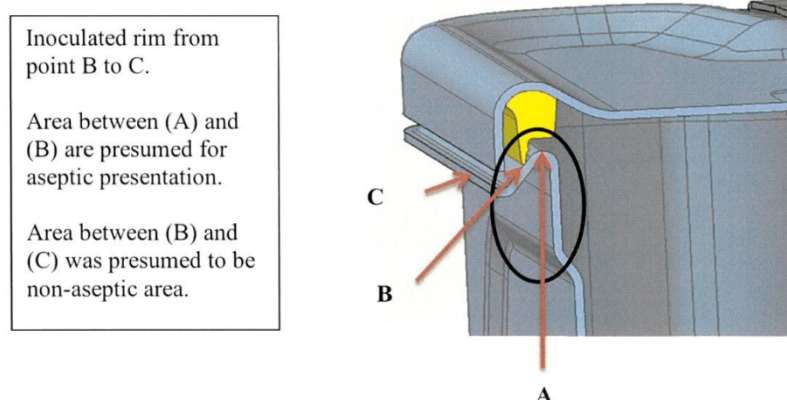
After sterilization, container edge rims were inoculated with bacterial spores along the outer rim of the container with a spore suspension. The inoculated base was cultured at certain locations along the edge.

TEST DESIGN

Three containers were fully loaded and then processed with a steam sterilization pre-vacuum cycle (132°C, 4 minutes). Subsequently, the edge rims of the containers were inoculated with bacterial spores. The inoculated containers were taken into the sterility test area, and a sterile swab was used to culture each incremental section along the rim of the base, starting from inside the container base and working outwards. The swabs were then incubated and monitored for growth.

TEST RESULT

The tests demonstrated that the top rim of the container was aseptic until 2 mm from the edge (2 mm from the tip of the “A” arrow outwards). This is considered a “safe distance” from potential contamination of the interior lip of the container. Slightly touching a container item on top of the rim therefore does not compromise its sterility and hence usage in surgery.



AESCULAP® – a B. Braun brand

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