

# STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES

DIVISION OF COMPARATIVE MEDICINE  
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA

SOP#: 1017

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TITLE: Surgical Pack Preparation  
SCOPE: All Animal Program Personnel  
RESPONSIBILITY: Facility Manager, all Research and Animal Personnel  
PURPOSE: To Outline the Procedures for Preparation of a Surgical Pack

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## I. PURPOSE

1. This SOP gives an overview of considerations regarding preparation of instruments and supplies to be used during survival surgery.

## II. RESPONSIBILITY

1. The Veterinarians oversee all aspects of animal health.
2. Facility Managers ensure implementation of all procedures.
3. All program staff contribute to successful compliance with this procedure.

## III. PROCEDURES

### Background

1. All instruments and supplies must be sterilized prior to use . Non autoclavable supplies may undergo high level disinfection. The following are acceptable methods currently available at USF:
  - a. Steam – must follow manufacture’s recommendations regarding time/temperature/pressure.
  - b. Chemical high level disinfection – must follow manufacture’s recommendations regarding solution concentration, contact time and rinsing of agent.
  - c. Glass Bead Sterilizer – Sterilizes tips of instruments only

### Preparation of Autoclavable Instrument Packs

1. Arrange instruments in a tray, dish, or bowl to protect them and provide a safe storage area for them between surgeries. Provision of two bowls is recommended: one to hold sterile saline for animal use (e.g., tissue lavage) and one for sterile saline for cleaning and storage of instruments between surgical cases. For minor procedures, one bowl may suffice.
2. Identify general use disposable supplies to be placed in the pack (e.g., gauze, drapes, cotton tipped applicators, etc.) and provide just slightly more than anticipated use for the planned surgical cases. Inclusion of excessive disposables is discouraged as they should not be re-autoclaved; rather, a separate small disposables pack can be made for when need arises.
- 3.

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