

Disinfecting Miscellaneous Hardware Used in Dispensing environment

A.U. Bankaitis, PhD, FAAA

The following items are considered non-critical instruments that do not ordinarily touch the patient or touch the external skin:

- Mini screwdriver
- Wonder tool
- Tweezers
- Needle file
- Twist drill
- Needle pliers
- Tubing scissors
- Tubing expanders
- Reamers

Since these items do not contact the patient, they are considered non-critical and can be cleaned and then disinfected after each use. These items can be wiped with a disinfectant towelette and then wiped again with an unused portion of the same towelette. If preferred, they can be soaked in a disinfectant after manually removing gross contamination.

Cleaning and Disinfecting Items:

- Clean entire surface of item with disinfectant towelette or paper towel
- Disinfect entire item with unused portion of or fresh disinfectant towelette
- Replace in resting position for future use

References:

1. Bankaitis, A.U. and Kemp, R.J. (2003). *Infection Control in the Hearing Aid Clinic*. Boulder, CO: Auban.