Top 5 Ways to Automate Steri-Center Operations

Virtually every process in the sterilization center involves water. Because so much staff time can be involved with buying and storing water, plus filling and draining autoclaves, automating some or all of these tasks can greatly enhance workflow efficiency and practice profitability.

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Automation saves money by making practices more efficient and helps make money by enabling staff to be more productive. Here are five ways to automate steri-center operations:

1. Stop buying bottled water.

Using high-purity water is ideal for filling dental bottles and ultrasonic cleaners, and for the rinse cycle of instrument washers. Steam sterilizers require distilled-quality water to operate properly. Have you considered how much time and space are wasted sending dental office staff to the store to purchase jugs of water, and then storing it in the office?

The VistaPure™ system connects to the city water supply and produces two grades of high-purity water for





everywhere it's needed in the steri-center. Its autoclave-ready, zero-TDS (deionized) water eliminates the need to buy distilled water or own a distiller. And its hyper filtered water ensures high-purity water for filling dental bottles, mixing with residual cleaners, and for the rinse cycle of instrument washers.

2. Keep sterilizers filled automatically.

Filling sterilizers manually can be time-consuming, and even challenging if the fill ports aren't easily accessible or within reach for office staff. Forgetting to fill reservoirs results in frustrating cycle-fault errors that cost even more staff time away from patients.

VistaPure patented AutoFill accessories replenish SciCan STATIM and BRAVO autoclaves with distilled-quality water automatically—enabling truly hands-free convenience. AutoFill accessory kits work with all VistaPure systems and can be used with any new or older-model STATIM 2000 or 5000, or any BRAVO autoclave.



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3. Send sterilizer wastewater directly down the drain.

Cassette-style autoclaves discharge "wastewater" in the form of steam and water vapor into a condensing bottle in the sterilization tower. Over the course of several sterilizer cycles, these condenser bottles fill up and get very hot, and must be emptied manually by office staff members—dental practices' most valuable and expensive resource.

Vista $Cool^{\mathbb{M}}$ is a patent-pending system that eliminates the need for some autoclave condenser coils by cooling sterilizer waste water and sending it directly down the drain automatically.

It protects cabinets by helping to prevent warm, humid environments created by exhaust from condenser bottles, prevents autoclave wastewater from melting plumbing, and saves staff time because there's no user maintenance required.



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4. Rinse instruments with high-purity water.

Instrument washers combine chemicals, water, air and high heat that can create an environment susceptible to oxidation when chloride levels in the water are high. Oxidation is a chemical process that can create discoloration, spotting, and even rust and corrosion of dental instruments over time.

Much like a "spot-free rinse" in a car wash, using high-purity water for the final-rinse cycle of an instrument washer rinses away mineral content that could otherwise contribute to spotting and oxidation. The VistaPure™ Instrument Washer Adapter Kit protects expensive instruments by providing high-purity water for the final-rinse cycle of instrument washers like the HYDR/M. This also saves staff time—and the potential for injury and need for reprocessing—because instruments rinsed properly with high-purity water do not need to be wiped down manually.



Your Infection Control Specialist"

5. Connect drain lines conveniently.

Every dental service technician knows the frustration: appliances like sterilizers, instrument washers, water purification systems, ultrasonic cleaners and more all require drain connections—and it's easy to run out of space fast. And every drain line that needs to be added typically requires a plumber—costing even more time and money.

Thankfully, now there's the Drain Hub™ multi-port drain adapter. This CSA-certified, patent-pending device accepts up to eight drain connections in one small hub—saving space, cost and time. Drain Hub is easy to install, and its 1/2" NPT threaded ports accept a variety of push-to-connect, compression, and hose barb adapter fittings.

For more information on products that can automate your steri-center, visit www.scican.com/us or contact your local SciCan Infection Control Specialist.



