

Section 7 Miscellaneous

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GLOSSARY OF TERMS

AERATOR: A machine designed to speed up the removal of EtO residues from sterilized items by subjecting them to warm, circulating air.

BIOBURDEN: The number and types of viable microorganisms with which an item is contaminated. When measured, bioburden is expressed as the total count of bacterial and fungi colony-forming units per single item.

CENTRAL SERVICE: A department in the hospital that provides supplies and equipment to patients and medical staff. Another name for SPD.

CLEANING: The physical removal of debris. It has two major effects. First, it results in a reduction in the number of microorganisms present. Second, it removes organic matter, such as blood and tissue, and other debris, which may interfere with sterilization or disinfection.

DECONTAMINATION: The process of rendering contaminated items safe for handling.

DISINFECTION: A process that destroys most forms of microorganisms on inanimate surfaces. The three levels of disinfection are high-level, intermediate-level and low-level.

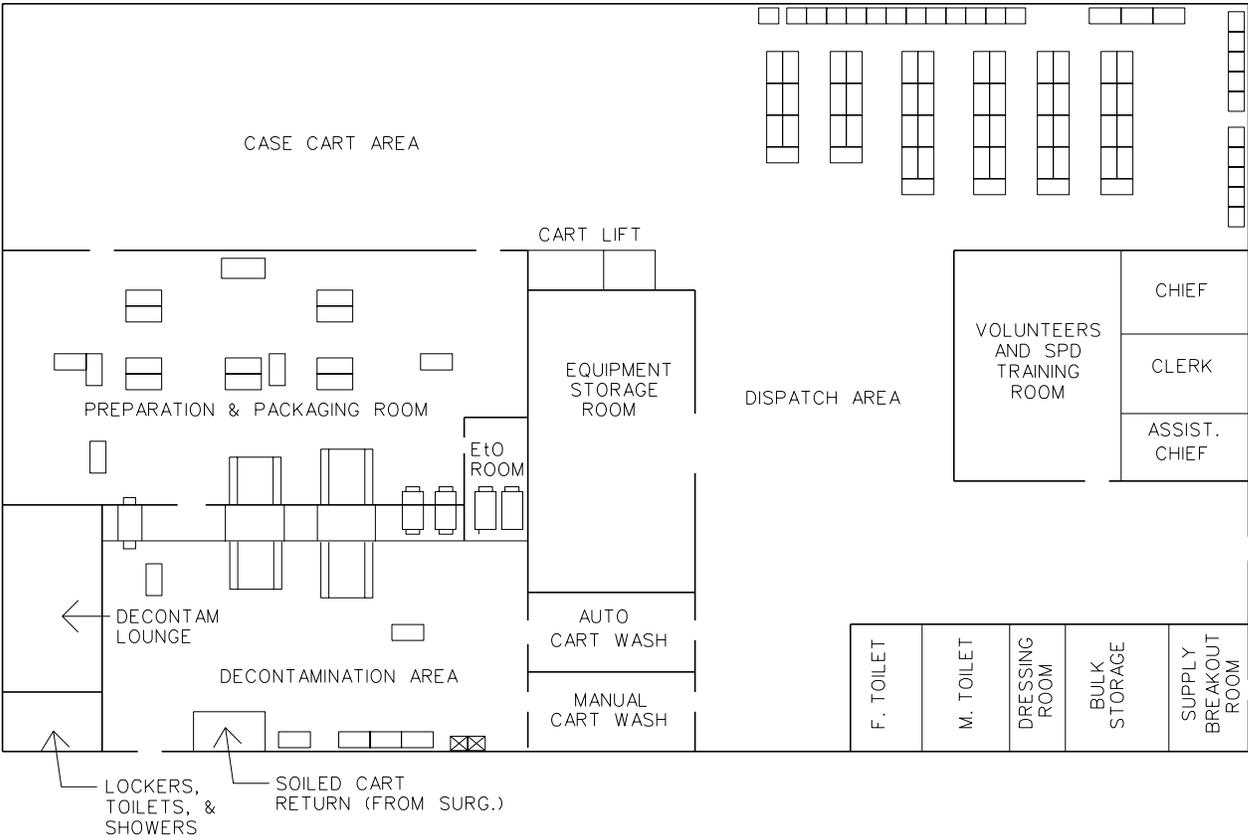
ETHYLENE OXIDE GAS STERILIZER (EtO): Sterilization at relatively low temperatures possible with ethylene oxide gas. Using a heated unit at 49C (120F), sterilization can be achieved in 2 - 3 hours.

PRIMARY STOCK: Medical supplies stored within the confines of the SPD Department

SECONDARY STOCK: Medical supplies stored in user areas such as wards, clinics, nursing care units, and intensive care units.

STERILIZATION: The process which destroys all types and forms of microorganisms, including viruses, bacteria, fungi, and bacterial endospores.

Example Layout Supply, Processing & Distribution



NOTE: DRAWING NOT TO SCALE