

Speakers Bureau Webinars

Presented by oneSOURCE

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➔ Celebrating 10 years of changing the face of patient safety



Staying Sharp During COVID-19



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A Guide for Sterile Processing Techs

About me

Alison Sonstelie BS, CHL, CIS, CRCST

- Multiple roles in Sterile Processing and Supply Chain
 - Lead Sterile Processing Coordinator as Sanford Health, Fargo, ND
- AAMI ST79 voting member
- Active in IAHCSSM and AHRMM
 - IAHCSSM Prairie Pioneers VP
- SPD won Healthcare Purchasing News CS/SPD Department of the Year in 2014
- NoCoast Consulting, LLC



My Quarantine Companions

- Stella - bull terrier puppy
 - Josie - 9

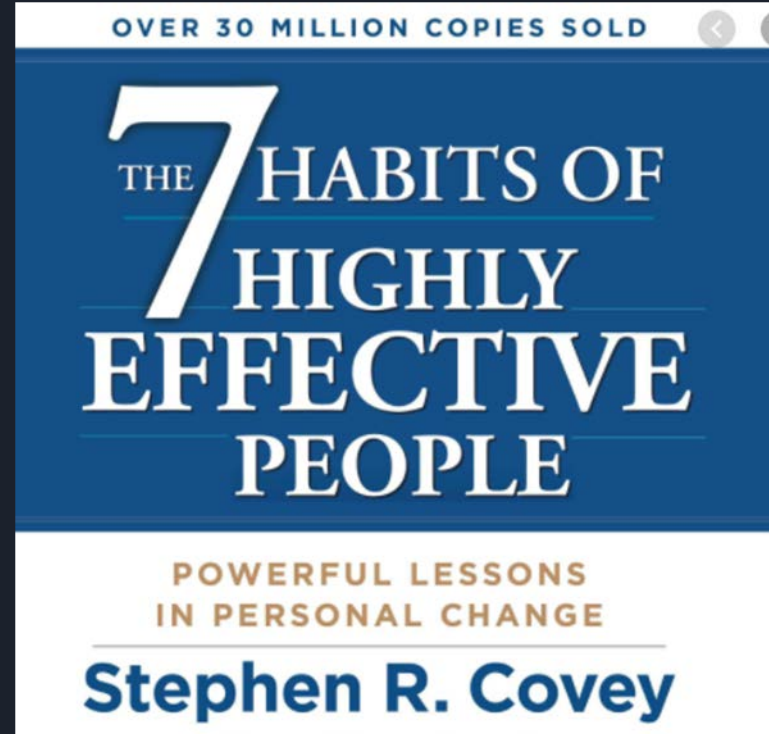
- Max and Britton





“Sharpening the Saw”

- In the book *7 Habits of Highly Effective People*, Stephen R. Covey says, “We must never become too busy sawing to take time to sharpen the saw.”
- This is a time for improvement and development!



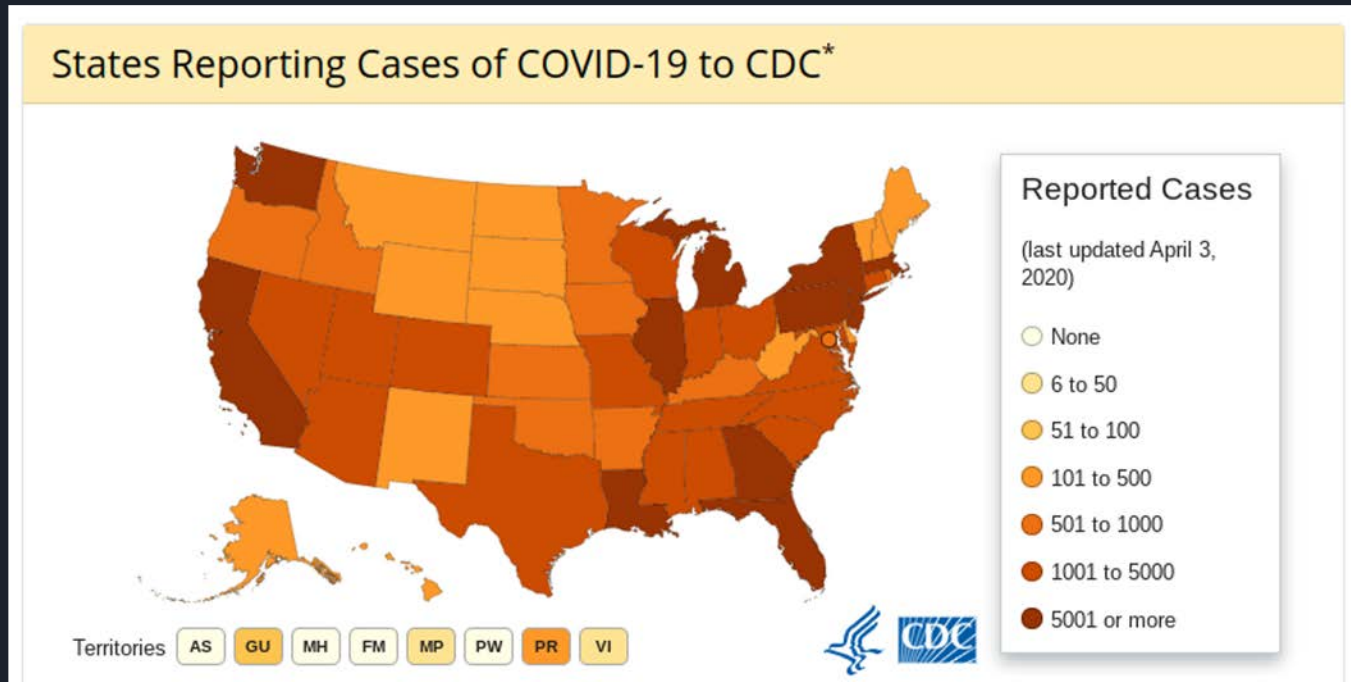


Objectives

1. Analyze current hospital workloads and strategies and the effects on sterile processing departments
2. Discuss downtime opportunities in the sterile processing department
3. Evaluate different approaches for professional development

Current State of COVID-19

As of 4/4/2020: 305,000 cases in U.S.





CDC's New Weekly Surveillance Summary

[COVIDView](#)

Summary: They are changing key indicators and surveillance systems used to track COVID-19 and influenza



COVIDView

A Weekly Surveillance Summary of U.S. COVID-19 Activity



Resources Available

CDC:
[For Healthcare
Professionals](#)

WHO:
[Guidance for Health
Workers](#)

Protect Patients and Workers



Infection Control



Optimize PPE Supply



Potential Exposure at
Work



oneSOURCE Knowledge Center



COVID-19 Resource Center

COVID-19 DOCUMENT DATABASE

Free COVID-19 Document Database

oneSOURCE has opened up a portion of its document database to help sterile processing departments quickly access the IFUs they need for COVID-19 related instruments and equipment.

[Get Access](#)

Important COVID-19 Announcements



Announcement: Joint Commission Statement on Use of Face Masks Brought From Home

The Joint Commission supports allowing staff to bring their own standard face masks or respirators to wear at work when their healthcare organizations cannot routinely provide access to protective equipment that is commensurate with the risk to which they are exposed.

[Read Announcement](#)



COVID-19 Game Changer: Newly Approved Machine Can Decontaminate 80,000 Respirator Masks Per Day

A machine that can decontaminate up to 80,000 respirators a day has been granted Emergency Use Authorization by the US Food and Drug Administration this morning. The decontamination system, made by a company called Battelle, is the CCDS Critical Care Decontamination System and uses vapor phase hydrogen peroxide to decontaminate the masks. Respirators are in short and dwindling supply.

[Read More](#)



Technical Bulletin: Disinfection of Filtering Facepiece Respirators

3M announced that as of March 27, 2020, no disinfection method has met all four of the key criteria for sterilizing or disinfecting filtering facepiece respirators. Without all four, the method is not acceptable. Read the findings in the full bulletin for more information.

[Read More](#)

Other Resources



TJC - Tools and Resources

The Joint Commission has made a list of tools and resources available to all health care organizations, to support health care professionals on the front lines of this pandemic.

[Visit Site](#)



World Health Organization Recommendations

WHO has specific recommendations for SPD departments on how to handle COVID-19 related instruments and equipment. Click below to for more information.

[Visit Site](#)



Medical Glove Conservation Strategies: Letter to Health Care Providers

A letter to Health Care Providers regarding potential shortages relating to surgeons' and patient examination gloves as well as conservation strategies categorized for a range of needs and supply levels intended to assist health care organizations as they determine procedures during the COVID-19 pandemic.

[Visit Site](#)

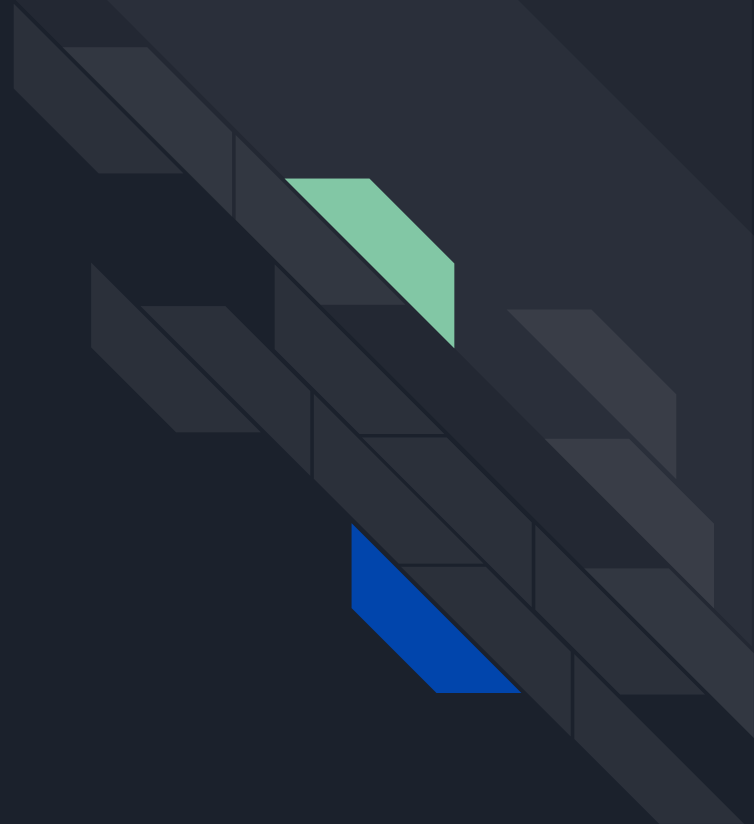


3M Novel Coronavirus Outbreak Response

Click to read 3M's response to the Coronavirus Outbreak and how it is affecting their supply as well as download resources for supplies/equipment related to COVID-19.

[Visit Site](#)

Surgical Services Strategies





Elective Cases

- 3/14/2020: Surgeon General implored hospitals to halt elective procedures
- 3/18/2020: CMS released guidance to limit, “non-essential adult elective surgery and medical and surgical procedures, including all dental procedures.” But also notes “decisions remain the responsibility of local healthcare delivery systems... and those surgeons who have direct responsibility to their patients.”
- 33 states have had officials come out with their own directives and guidance regarding elective procedures, ranging from recommendations that providers scale back elective procedures to mandates that elective procedures be canceled or postponed.



What this means

- Surgery is the revenue generator in healthcare
- Hospitals are in financial trouble
- Healthcare workers, even in emerging hot spots, are being furloughed, reassigned or told they must take pay cuts.
- Some systems are putting up to 30% of their employees on furlough
- Some physicians are seeing 20% pay cuts

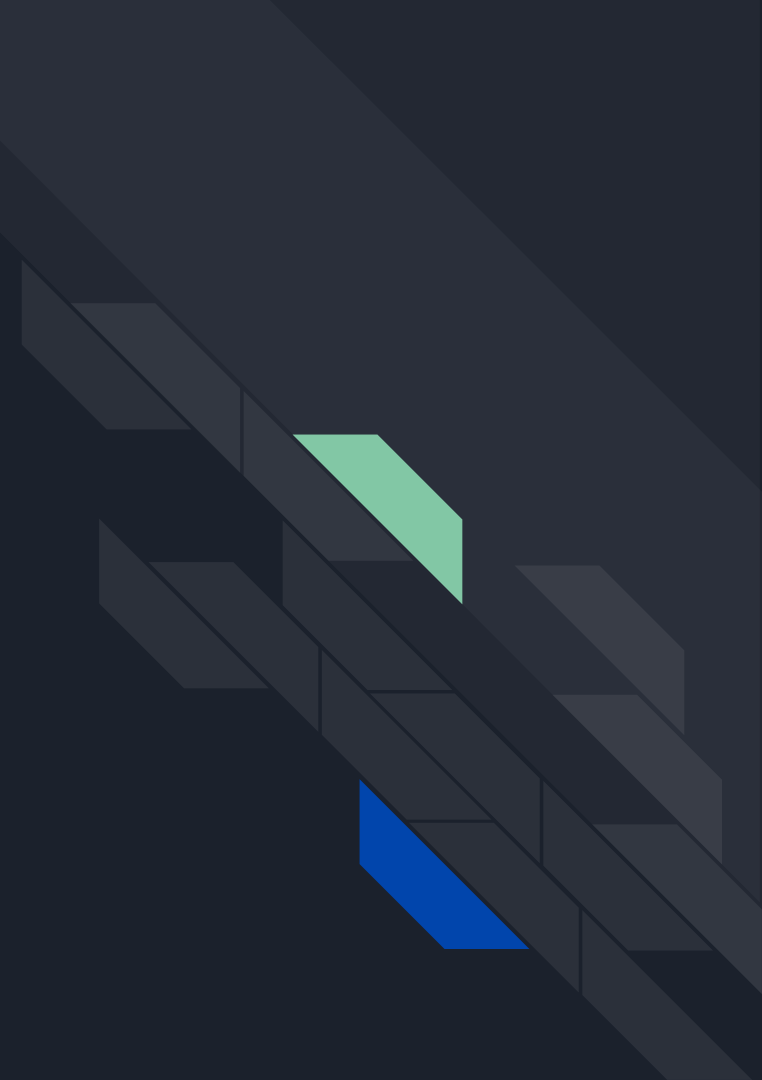




Sterile Processing Technicians

- Reduced work hours
- Repurposed elsewhere
- Furloughed or laid off

Reduced Work Hours
(In Department)





Opportunities

- Cleaning
- Date Checking, Package Integrity Check
- Organizing and Labeling
- Optimizing Count Sheets or Tracking System
- Training, Competencies, and Policies
- May Start Reprocessing N95 Masks!



Cleaning

- When was the last time your department got a thorough deep cleaning?
- Move equipment around so you can clean under and behind it and get in all the nooks and crannies.
- Empty out supply and instrument bins so they can be thoroughly cleaned and wipe off the shelves.
- Assembly tables can get dusty. You can clean out any drawers, bins, light fixtures, etc.
- If you have computers at work stations, now is a great time to blow out the fans and keyboards.

Date Checking and Package Integrity



- This is a task that is hard to complete during normal case loads.
- This is a great opportunity to go through your warehouse and look for supplies that are outdated or outdating soon, broken locks, and holes in wraps or pouches.
- If you have a clean core, make sure you check this area as well.



Organizing and Labeling

- Go through your storage areas and replace any missing or faded labels.
- Go through your department's "junk drawers" and purge the things that are old or obsolete, and reorganize the items that are still used.
- If you have backup instruments that tend to get dusty, send them through the wash and put them away.
- [5S Guide \(Sort, Set in Order, Shine, Standardize, Sustain\)](#)

Optimizing Count Sheets and Tracking Systems

- If you have flaws in your count sheets, this is a fantastic opportunity to dedicate time to fix them.
- Take pictures of the instruments and add it to your system.
- Make improvements now to get assembly humming when we're busy again.





Review reprocessing IFUs

- If you have a tracking system, most allow you to add reprocessing instructions
- Review items that are complex or have frequent mistakes and add instructions to tracking systems or make guides with as many pictures as possible
- Manufacturer's may update their IFUs frequently, so review
- Explore getting a direct link from tracking system to the IFU (or to oneSOURCE).

Training, Competency, and Policies

- Policy writing = nobody's favorite
- Take some time to go through your existing policies, see what's needed, and make changes.
- Training and competency testing can be developed, enhanced, and refreshed as well.
- [IAHCSMM CS Sample Documents](#)



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[Articles](#)

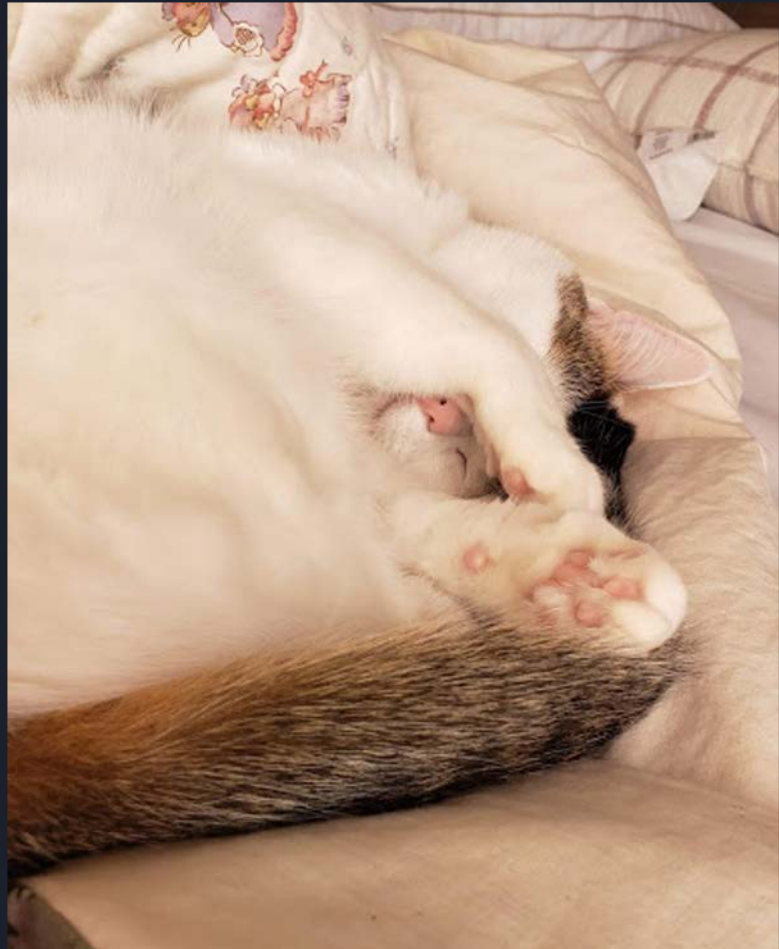
[Competencies](#)

[Forms and Checklists](#)

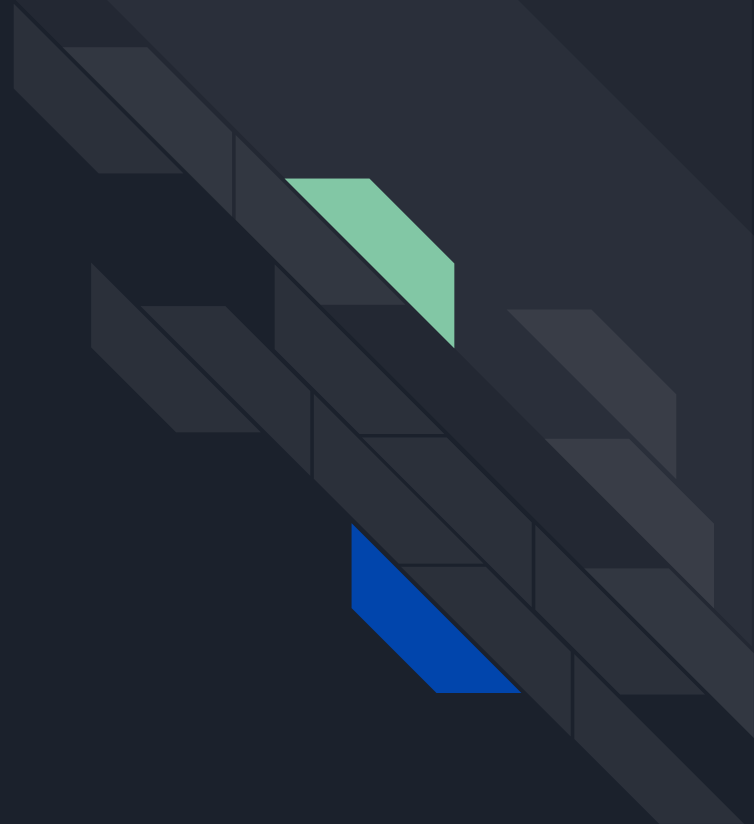
[Job Descriptions](#)

[Policies](#)

[Posters](#)




Reassignment





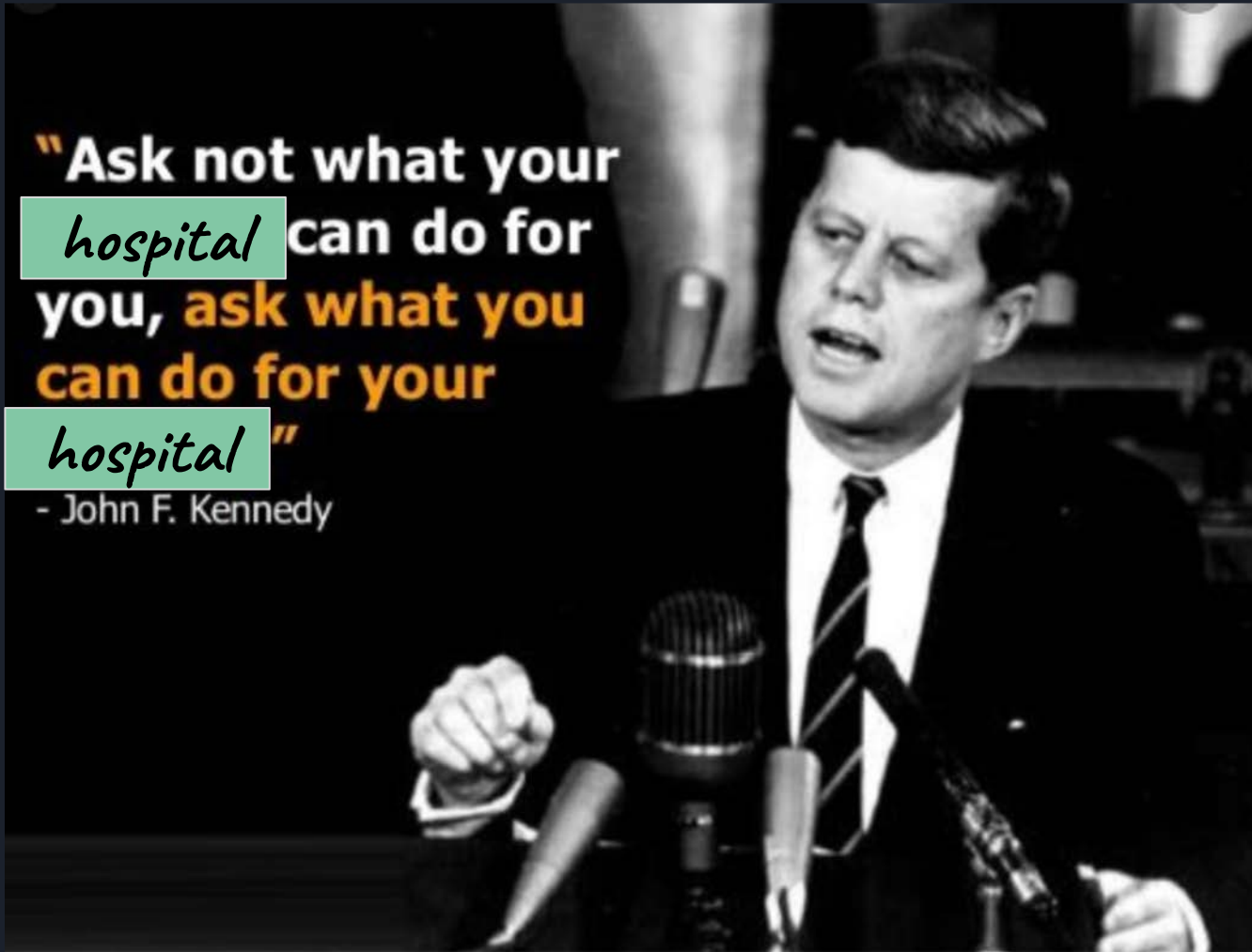
Learning New Skills

- Examples of new assignments:
- Supply Chain logistics (they're like our cousins)
- Patient intake (screening possible COVID patients)
- Environmental Services
- Food Services



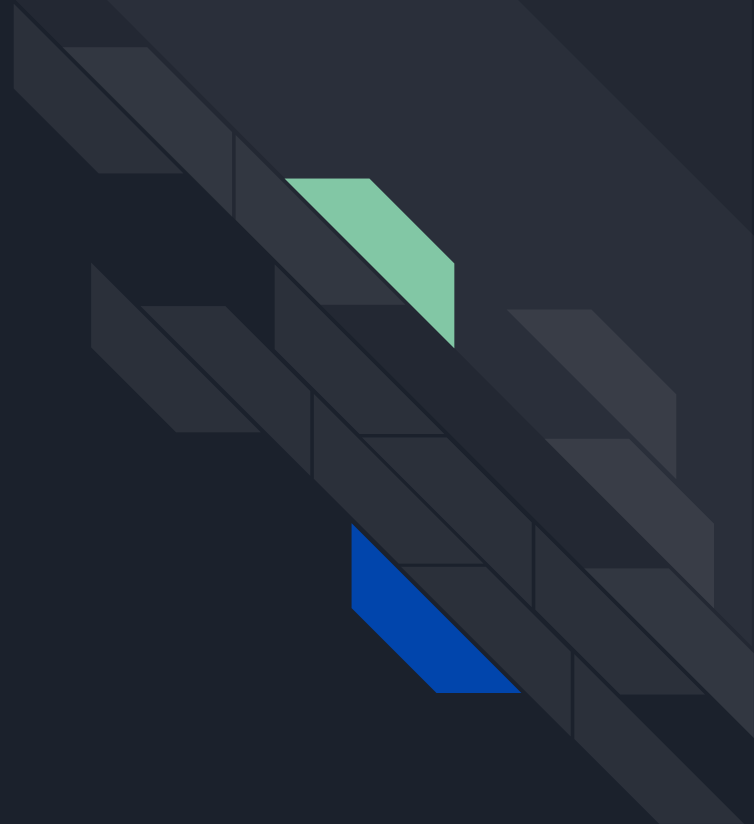
**"Ask not what your
hospital can do for
you, ask what you
can do for your
hospital "**

- John F. Kennedy





Furloughed Techs





Opportunities

- Job Seeking
- Certifications
- Professional Development

It's time to start hustling!



Job Seeking

- Apply for other positions at the hospital, if they're still open
 - If you're already in, it's a way to build a resume
 - If you're trying to get into sterile processing, this is how you get your foot in the door

External Opportunities

- Battelle is hiring 2,300 decontamination techs to help reprocess N95 masks
- Tacoma, Chicago, Boston, Columbus, Washington D.C. Planning on 100 decontamination sites
- [NBC4i Story](#)
- [Battelle Career Site - Decontamination Positions](#)




- Amazon is hiring 100,000 new positions in fulfilment and delivery across the U.S.
- [Amazon Blog](#)
- [Amazon Career Site](#)



- Instacart Grocery Delivery is planning on hiring 300,000 additional shoppers
- [CNN Article - Instacart](#)
- [Instacart Career Site](#)



- 
- Wal Mart, Dollar Tree, 7-Eleven are hiring 200,000 employees
 - [CNN Article - Wal Mart, 7-Eleven, Dollar Tree](#)





Current unemployment claims
6.6 million

How will you be able to get one of these jobs?

Your experience as a Sterile Processing technician
directly relates to these jobs





Battelle Job Summary

Basic operation of the system includes:

- Receiving the contaminated PPE from hospitals (double bagged and contained in a rigid box)
- Donning PPE and transporting the boxes to the decontamination chamber
- Tracking inventory of PPE
- Placing PPE into the decontamination chamber on racks
- Removing PPE from the chamber after it is exposed to hydrogen peroxide vapor and aerated, tagging, documenting, and packaging it for delivery back to the hospital



Amazon Warehouse Team Member

Job Description

Fulfillment Centers– Work inside an Amazon warehouse, selecting, packing and shipping customer orders. If you like a fast-paced, physical position that gets you up and moving, then come help bring orders to life. Work a set, full-time schedule. Shift options include overnight and days, and usually at least one weekend day.

**Picking a case cart or assembling an instrument set



Writing a resume for the job

Frame your experience to fit the job description

Logistics/Warehousing:

- Fulfilling supply orders and surgical instrument bill of materials in a fast-paced, variable environment
- Maintaining accuracy and adhering to process assurance protocols to guarantee patient safety
- Providing customer service for telephone and in-person orders
- Following a robust safety program, including appropriate PPE, bloodborne pathogens, mechanical safety, and physical requirements.



Certification

- Now is an excellent time to prepare for certification exams
- Basic certification (CRCST and CBSPD) will help secure a job as a Sterile Processing Technician
- Advanced roles (CIS, CHL, CER) will help you gain an edge over other technicians or for leadership roles



Professional Development

- Consider Joining AAMI workgroups (see next slide)
- Need user representation, heavy on industry representation

How to Join an AAMI Committee ST79 (WG40)

Courtesy of:
David Jagrosse Consulting, LLC - davidjagrosse@gmail.com
NoCoast Consulting, LLC - nocost.consultingnd@gmail.com

1. Go to www.aami.org

2. Click on "Standards Development" and then "Join a Committee"

Standards Development

Committee Central

Join a Committee

Standards Meetings

Procedures & Forms

Standards FAQs

Standards Question Form

Standards Monitor Online

Standards Awards

Standards Philosophy

3. Scroll down and click "AAMI Committee Application"

Technical Committee or TAG Application

- AAMI Committee Application (Word)
- List of Technical Committees (PDF for download)

4. Fill out the application form, enter "WG 40" under committee, working group, TAG. Send form to standards@aami.org

Committee(s)/Working Group(s)/TAG(s) of Interest

Please indicate below which Committee, Working Group or TAG you are interested in (for a complete list of committees and working groups, click [here](#)). Please select just one committee role.*

Committee(s), Working Group(s) or TAG(s)	Primary Voter*	Alternate Voter*	Liaison/Non-Voting
ST/WG 40	Steam Sterilization Hospital Practices Working Group	Develops standards for sterile processing professionals using steam sterilization in health care delivery organizations. Staff contact: Amanda Benedict abenedict@aami.org	



Writing

- You can publish anything you want on LinkedIn
 - A well-known person in our field got their start that way, guess who
- Reach out to IAHCSCMM
- [Link to LinkedIn Article](#)



So you Want to Write a Blog Post: The Normal Person's Guide to Great Sterile Processing Content

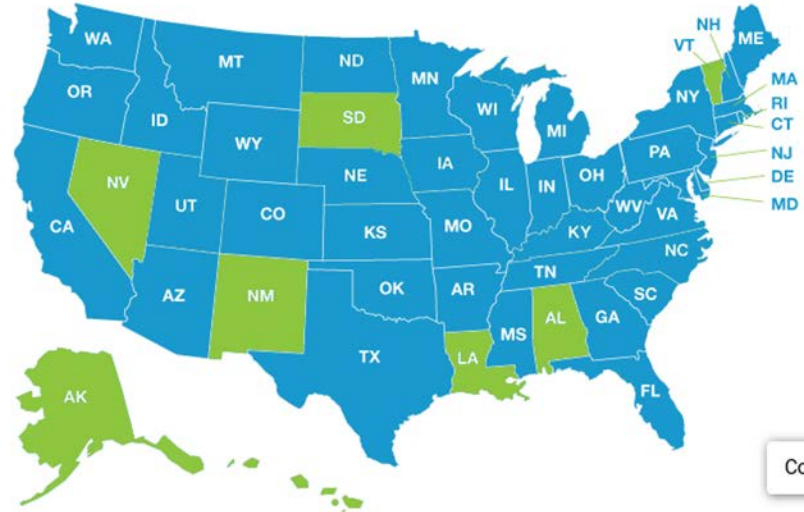
Reach out to your IAHCSCMM or CBSPD Chapter

- Chapters are usually looking for board or committee members
- Great way to grow your professional network

Chapters at IAHCSCMM

Currently, there are more than 60 IAHCSCMM Chapters across 37 states and five countries, a far-reaching presence that provides CS professionals in virtually any location with more direct access to meetings, educational events and networking opportunities.

To locate a chapter near you, click your local state on this interactive map, or, click on the state listing. States pictured in green do not currently have a chapter.



Final Mood Booster





Questions?

GO OUT AND SHARPEN THE SAW!

THANK YOU

To receive your 1.0 credit certificate from ONESOURCE and IAHCSCMM, please fill out and submit the form at

onesourcedocs.com/cecredit



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