Measuring Sterile Processing Success

High Reliability

High Reliability: Measuring SPD Success

- Explain the importance of high reliability in sterile processing.
- Describe factors that contribute to people and process failures.
- Explain how a quality assurance program can create a highly reliable SPD.

High Reliability

Consistently producing safe surgical instruments and devices efficiently even in risky situations

Proficient People Performing Perfect Processes =

High Reliability

High Reliability

PEOPLE

Does everyone have the skills to perform in every area (decon, HLD, Assembly, Sterilization, Case Cartss, ect.)

Does the department suffer when certain people are not there?

PROCESSES

- Are processes clearly understood?
- Are processes seamless with organized steps and supplies readily available.

Definitions:

- **Proficient** – Competent or skilled in doing or using something.

- **Perfect** - make (something) completely free from faults or defects.

People and Process Failures

PEOPLE

Why aren’t people proficient?

- No or incomplete training
- No performance accountability

PROCESSES

Why aren’t processes perfect?

- Disorganized environment
- Inconsistent supply availability
- Location of supplies
- Broken equipment

Implementing a Continuous Quality Improvement Program

An effective Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) program requires ***education*** and ***quality*** *audits* that will support people and improve processes continuously.

Collect and Review Surgery Tray Error Data

2025 January			2025 February	
Bioburden	5		Bioburden	3
Missing Locks	6		Missing Locks	1
Missing Filter	2		Missing Filter	0
Missing Required	12		Missing Required	10
Missing Indicator	0		Missing Indicator	4
Misc.	9		Misc.	11
TOTAL ERRORS	**34**		**TOTAL ERRORS**	**29**
Total Sterilized	**11,188**		**Total Sterilized**	**10,628**
Trays	9178		Trays	8864
Peel Pouch	2010		Peel Pouch	1764

Conduct and Document Random Audits

Process Audits

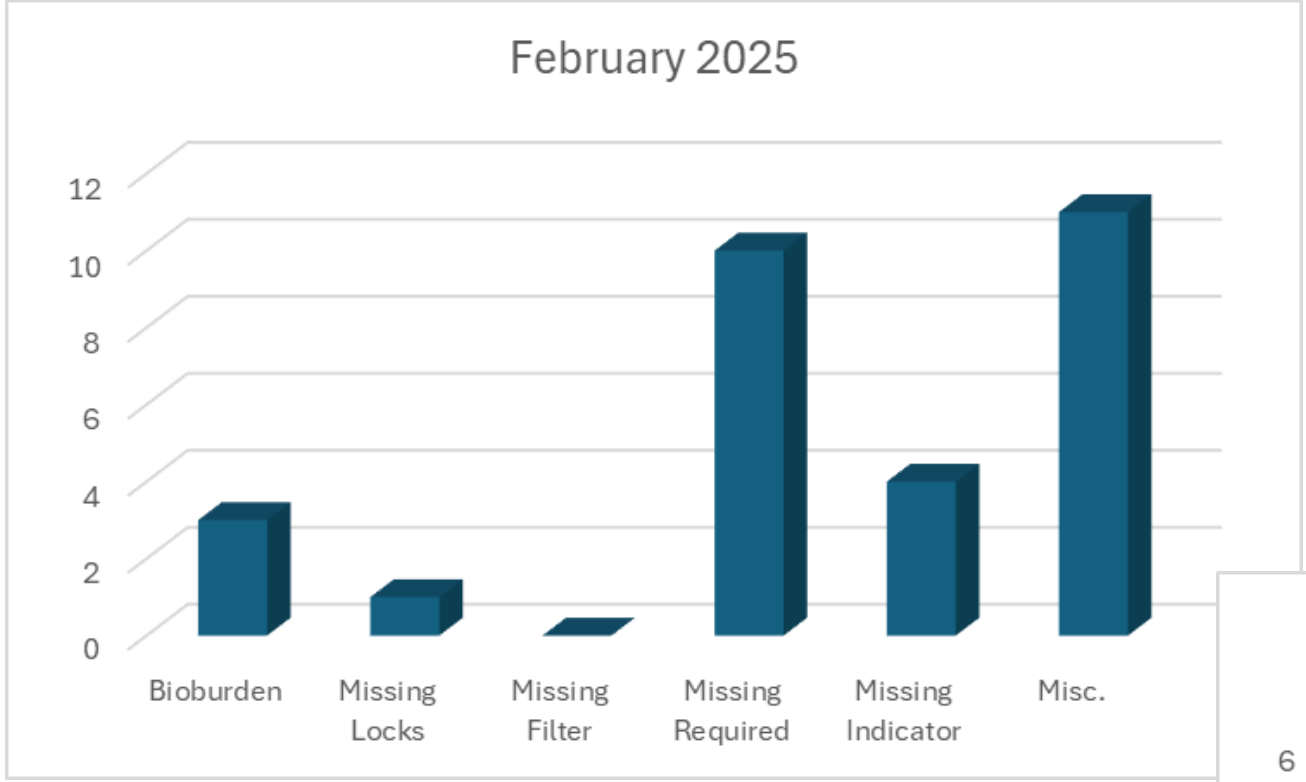
Follow techs through a process to observe compliance

Look for process deviations and ask clarifying questions

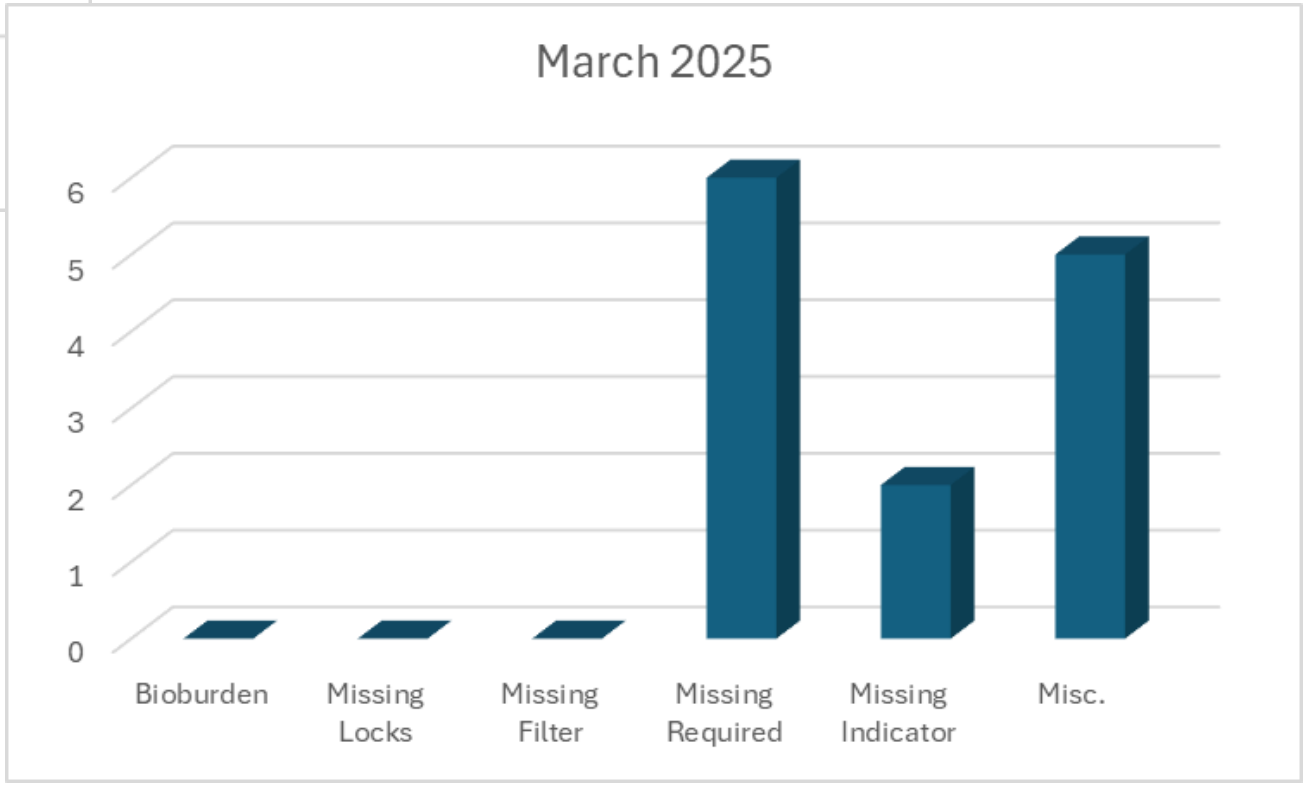
Evaluate process perfection

Product Audits

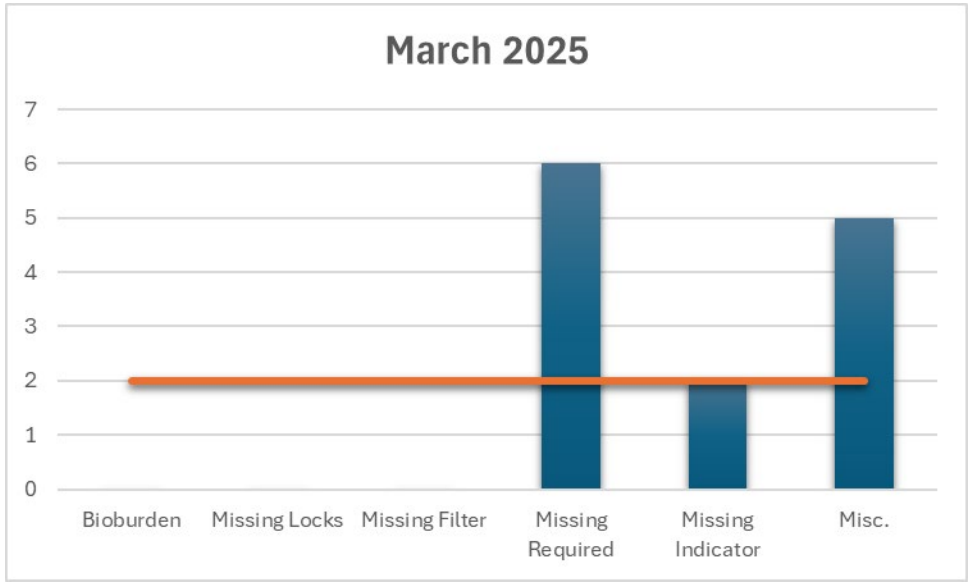
- Inspect trays from the washer
- Open and inspect sterile trays
- Inspect completed case cart
- Inspect sterilization and HLD documentation
- Assign education as needed



Show Improvement



Prepare to Share Your Reliable Data



- Use charts
- Bullet point actions taken to make improvements
- Suggest a baseline for your data

• Inspection process created to ensure unsterile loads are inspected for locks and filters prior to sterilization.

•Corrective action plan developed in partnership with HR to hold technicians accountable for bioburden errors.

High Reliability Review

- Proficient People + Perfect Processes = High Reliability
- Incomplete orientation and or broken processes prevent highly reliable sterile processing service.
- Implementing a continuous quality improvement program can help develop a highly reliable sterile processing service.
- Review errors and allow it to guide audits to identify education and or process requirements
- Document data and share improvements


THANK
YOU!