### Request For Advice on Decontamination of Medical Devices

#### NHS
Greater Glasgow and Clyde

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<td>21/05/12</td>
<td>SCN Margaret Kerr</td>
<td>SCN Orthopaedic Clinic</td>
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#### Name of device
Plaster room instruments

#### Use (including type of patient and procedure)

- **Scissors:** Used to cut bandages, back slabs, padding under slabs, casts. Kept in nurse’s pocket.
- **Plaster saw:** Used for all plaster removal, down to the padding underneath the plaster. The saw never touches the skin.
- **Shears:** For removing plasters.
- **Spreaders:** Metal instrument to hold plaster open whilst padding being cut.

#### Reason for new device
Not new but no agreed decontamination policy across GG&C.

#### Manufacturer
Lumenis

#### Query
SCN would like an agreed decontamination method for these instruments.

#### Details of manufacturer’s recommended decontamination (items marked ‘single use’ must be discarded after use)
No guidance for scissors/shears/spreaders – according to local policy.

- For plaster saw - detergent (no autoclaving or high water pressure water jets).

#### Measures taken by staff to address the issues above
Literature search revealed most areas use detergent wipes followed by alcohol

#### Recommendations of the Decontamination sub-group
- Clean the instruments before and after each with detergent wipes.
- Dry instruments with a disposable paper towel.
- Store in a clean dry container protected from dust and contamination
- If contaminated with blood/body fluids wipe with 10,000 PPM Chlorine based detergent, rinse and dry.
- If plaster saw contaminated with blood/body fluids and cannot be adequately decontaminated it may need to be discarded.

#### Date Completed
28/11/12