

**Report Date:** 26 Aug 2011

**Summary Report for Individual Task  
081-833-0007  
Establish a Sterile Field  
Status: Approved**

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DISTRIBUTION RESTRICTION: Approved for public release; distribution is unlimited.

DESTRUCTION NOTICE: None

**Condition:** You need to establish a sterile field. You will need sterile packs, sterile drapes and towels, a small solution basin, sterile liquids, sterile needles and syringes, sterile gloves, and a flat, clean, dry surface. You have performed a patient care handwash. You are not in a CBRN environment. This task should not be trained in MOPP4.

**Standard:** Establish a sterile field without violating aseptic technique.

**Special Condition:** None

**Special Standards:** None

**Special Equipment:**

<b>Task Statements</b>
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**Cue:** None

<b>DANGER</b>
None

<b>WARNING</b>
None

<b>CAUTION</b>
None

**Remarks:** None

**Notes:** None

## Performance Steps

1. Obtain sterile equipment and supplies IAW local SOP.

2. Select a flat, clean, dry surface.

Note: Choose a surface away from drafts, if possible.

3. Create a sterile field with a double-wrapped sterile package.

a. Lift the top flap of the sterile pack away from the body without crossing your hand or arm over the sterile field.

b. Lift the remaining flaps, one at a time, away from the center without crossing your hand or arm over the sterile field.

4. Introduce sterile items onto the sterile field.

Note: The outer two inch border of the sterile field is considered contaminated. Items that fall into that area are considered contaminated and should not be used. If an item rolls from the two inch border onto the sterile field, the sterile field is considered contaminated and the procedure must be stopped immediately and the procedure must be repeated using a new sterile pack.

a. Commercially prepacked items (syringes, sutures, needles, etc.).

(1) Keeping your hands on the outside of the sterile wrapper, grasp the opening edge of the package.

(2) Carefully fold (roll) each end of the wrapper back toward your wrists.

(3) Without contaminating the contents, drop them onto the sterile field.

Note: If the wrapper has been punctured, torn, or has water marks, the item is no longer sterile.

b. Centralized materiel service (CMS) items (wrapped in double muslin wrappers).

(1) Remove the outer wrapper.

(2) Grasp the edge of the item being unwrapped, keeping your hand on the outside of the inner wrapper.

(3) Fold each edge of the wrapper slowly back over your wrist of the hand holding the item.

(4) Drop the item onto the sterile field.

5. Open sterile liquids.

Note: NOTES: 1. Liquids prepared in CMS are considered sterile if a vacuum release sound is heard when the bottle is opened. If there is no sound, the bottle is considered unsterile, and a new bottle must be obtained before continuing the procedure. 2. Some commercially prepared bottles of sterile solution may not make a vacuum release sound.

a. Remove the outer protective bottle seal, if necessary, and remove the cap.

b. Hold the cap in one hand, or place the cap so the top rests on the table.

Note: The bottle rim and inside of the cap are considered sterile.

CAUTION: Discard the sterile solution under any of the following conditions: 1. Anyone touches the bottle rim. 2. The lip of the bottle touches non-sterile items. 3. Someone touches the inside of the cap or the part of the cap that touches the container is placed on the table.

6. Pour sterile liquids.

- a. Hold the bottle with the label against your palm.
- b. Pour a small amount of the liquid from the bottle into a waste receptacle.
- c. Hold the bottle about 6 inches above the container into which the liquid is to be poured.
- d. Slowly pour a steady stream to avoid splashing, thus preventing contamination.
- e. Replace the cap without contaminating the bottle.

f. Write the date and time the bottle was opened and your initials on the label. Return the bottle to the storage area or discard it IAW local SOP.

Note: If the sterile field is contaminated at any time, the procedure must be stopped immediately. Repeat all steps using new sterile equipment.

(Asterisks indicates a leader performance step.)

**Evaluation Preparation:** Setup: Place all necessary materials and equipment including sterile packs, sterile drapes and towels, a small solution basin, sterile liquids, sterile needles and syringes, and sterile gloves on a table. Place another table adjacent to the first table for the sterile field. Have a waste receptacle in place to receive the sterile liquid poured.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES	GO	NO-GO	N/A
1. Obtained sterile equipment and supplies IAW local SOP.			
2. Selected a flat, clean, dry surface.			
3. Created a sterile field with a double-wrapped sterile package.			
4. Introduced sterile items onto the sterile field.			
5. Opened sterile liquids.			
6. Poured sterile liquids.			
7. Did not violate aseptic technique.			

**Supporting Reference(s):**

Step Number	Reference ID	Reference Name	Required	Primary
	978-0781765213	Textbook of Basic Nursing 9th edition, Caroline Bunker Rosdahl, Mary T. Kowalski	No	No

**Environment:** Environmental protection is not just the law but the right thing to do. It is a continual process and starts with deliberate planning. Always be alert to ways to protect our environment during training and missions. In doing so, you will contribute to the sustainment of our training resources while protecting people and the environment from harmful effects. Refer to FM 3-34.5 Environmental Considerations and GTA 05-08-002 ENVIRONMENTAL-RELATED RISK ASSESSMENT.

**Safety:** In a training environment, leaders must perform a risk assessment in accordance with FM 5-19, Composite Risk Management. Leaders will complete a DA Form 7566 COMPOSITE RISK MANAGEMENT WORKSHEET during the planning and completion of each task and sub-task by assessing mission, enemy, terrain and weather, troops and support available-time available and civil considerations, (METT-TC). Note: During MOPP training, leaders must ensure personnel are monitored for potential heat injury. Local policies and procedures must be followed during times of increased heat category in order to avoid heat related injury. Consider the MOPP work/rest cycles and water replacement guidelines IAW FM 3-11.4, NBC Protection, FM 3-11.5, CBRN Decontamination.

**Prerequisite Individual Tasks :** None

**Supporting Individual Tasks :** None

**Supported Individual Tasks :** None

**Supported Collective Tasks :**

<b>Task Number</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Proponent</b>	<b>Status</b>
N/A	N/A	Not Selected	Obsolete