After being sterilized ...

- 111 rigid containers
- 161 wrapped trays

... were tested for bacteria

- Membranes in sterilization packaging
- Sterilization occurs (Pre-Vac)
- Aerosol chamber to emulate real-life environmental changes
- Containers & wrapped trays wiped down
- Membranes put into petri dishes & bacteria counted

**THE METHODOLOGY**

**THE TESTING PROTOCOL**

**THE RESULTS**

87% had bacteria

0% had bacteria

100% of the wrapped trays maintained sterility until use

**RESEARCH CONDUCTED IN 2006 FOUND THAT STERILIZATION WRAP WAS MORE EFFECTIVE THAN RIGID CONTAINERS AT MAINTAINING STERILITY**

SECOND STUDY DONE IN 10 YEARS TO HAVE SIMILAR FINDINGS

**THE BIG PICTURE: 300,000 SSIs occurring annually**

in U.S. hospitals and the implementation of Affordable Care Act mandates, hospitals are experiencing unprecedented pressure to reduce SSIs.

25% of facilities will see a 1% reduction in Medicaid/Medicare reimbursement. For a mid-size facility with over $100 million in Medicare payments, this penalty could exceed $1 million just for HACs.

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**HOW ARE CONTAINERS AND STERILIZATION WRAP USED?**

Containers and sterilization wrap (also known as sterile packaging systems) protect surgical instruments from contamination from the time of sterilization until the surgical procedure, decreasing risk for SSIs.

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