

REUSABLE CLEANING TOOLS:
IT IS TIME TO SAY GOODBYE
TO YOUR "FAVORITE" BRUSH

MANUAL CLEANING EXPERT SERIES

 **BEYOND**
CLEAN



Jamie Zarembinski, CCSVP
Clinical Educator, Key Surgical

Beyond Clean Manual Cleaning Expert Series:

REUSABLE CLEANING TOOLS: IT IS TIME TO SAY GOODBYE TO YOUR "FAVORITE" BRUSH

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If I told you that I share a toothbrush with my sister every time we go on vacation, I'd imagine your guttural reaction is "ew, that's disgusting" and rightfully so, it is in fact disgusting. If toothbrush sharing elicits a strong reaction, why wouldn't instrument cleaning brush sharing elicit a similar response? Especially when the stakes of surgical instrument cleaning, disinfection, and sterilization are so high. AORN and AAMI guidelines share similar sentiments when it comes to brush use in decontamination. AORN states "reusable brushes that are not decontaminated can cause contaminants to be transferred from one device to another." AAMI says "whenever possible, single-use brushes and other cleaning implements should be used and then disposed of afterwards." The organizations that drive our daily practices in sterile processing are aligned on the risks of cross-contamination when utilizing reusable cleaning tools and it might be time to say goodbye to your "favorite brush" in the name of decontamination best practices.

Have more manual cleaning questions? Contact Jamie at: Jamie.Zarembinski@KeySurgical.com

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Jamie Zarembinski is a Certified Central Service Vendor Partner (CCSVP) through IAHCSSM. She has over 7 years of experience in the Sterile Processing Industry supporting departments as a sales representative and clinical educator at Key Surgical. Recent recipient of the Robert Hilbolt Award for outstanding healthcare professional in the Sterile Processing industry from the Michigan Society of Healthcare Central Service Professionals (MSHCSP). Currently, Jamie is a Clinical Educator for Sterile Processing at Key Surgical. She plays an active role in the sterile processing industry as a speaker at medical facilities and educational seminars around the United States. She works with sterile processing staff to share, develop, and implement best practices based on recommendations by our governing bodies such as ANSI/AAMI, IAHCSSM, SGNA, AORN and others. She is a member of IAHCSSM, AORN and is a voting member of AAMI ST/WG 40. Jamie is working towards her CRCST, CIS, CER, and CHL.

