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Profiling and evaluating a sterilization service in a hospital

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Any sterilization service as a department that sterilizes critical medicinal products must comply with a series of standards and processes that would help it to ensure and warranty security and quality on its outcome products. The goal of this research was to develop a framework that would help to profile and measure how effectively a sterilization service complies with the standards and requirements defined for such critical activity in any health care organization. This blueprint was developed as part of the implementation of a Quality assurance management system for the sterilization service in a hospital. In such context, the framework helped to diagnostic the sterilization service, define and stage improvement plans and measure the result of each implementation. This framework consists of a checklist that defines nine critical sections. These sections cover different areas such as management, infrastructure, training, areas and procedures, human resources, equipment and documentation. The checklist is based on industry standards which help to identify weak points and potential improvements. The framework provides a singular indicator that represents the level of fulfillment and alignment to industry standards. This indicator facilitates the comparison with other sterilization services. Furthermore, it allows the comparison between stages within a single sterilization service facilitating for instance to realize the results of carrying out an improvement plan.

Biography

Gallardo Gallegos Graciela Marta has graduated as Pharmacist from Universidad Nacional de Córdoba, Argentina in 1983. In 2003, she has obtained a Specialist in Management Engineering degree and in 2013; she has graduated as Masters in Business Administration, both degrees issued by the Universidad Tecnológica Nacional, Argentina. She has also taught subjects related to Hospital Pharmacy and Sterilization at Universidad Nacional de Córdoba. She has worked for the Government as Quality Assurance Consulter leading tourist institutions throughout the certification and implementation of ISO and IRAM standards. Currently she works as a Pharmacist Director and Leader at one of Cordoba's biggest pharmacies that she also owns.

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