

# PROCESS VALIDATION IN REAL PRACTICE - A CASE STUDY FROM A GERMAN HOSPITAL

Name: Bianca Winkler

Affiliation: Head of QM in CSSD of RoMed Clinic (Rosenheim & Bad Aibling) in South Bavaria, Germany



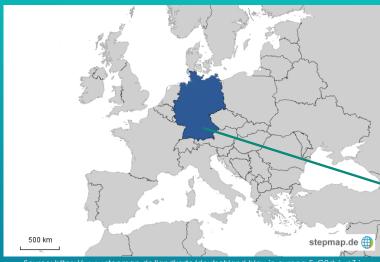


# Agenda

- 1. Presentation of the RoMed Group
- 2. Validation What's that?
- 3. Why we do process validation
- 4. Which processes do we validate?
- 5. How we do that ? 4 Main steps in Validation processes in practice
- 6. Take a Look into the Validation Process of the CSSDs in RoMed

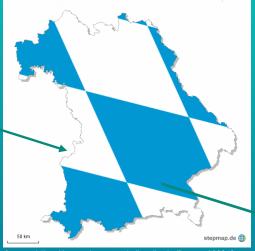


# 1. Presentation of the RoMed Group



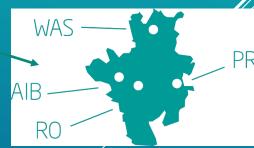
Source: <a href="https://www.stepmap.de/landkarte/deutschland-blau-in-europa-FvG2dviweZ-illalaad">https://www.stepmap.de/landkarte/deutschland-blau-in-europa-FvG2dviweZ-illalaad</a> 10 2024

#### Germany



Source: https://www.stepmap.de/landkarte/Bayern-139343.png Upload 20.04.2024

State of Bavaria



Source: RoMed, Upload 20.04.2024

District of Rosenheim







#### Our RoMed Clinics

With over 1,000 beds, we care for around 50,000 inpatients and 90,000 outpatients every year in our four municipal RoMed clinics in Bad Aibling, Prien am Chiemsee, Rosenheim and Wasserburg am Inn. Around 3,000 employees look after the well-being of our patients around the clock.



















# **RoMed Clinics**





Bianca Winkler - Process Validation in a real Practice









Rosenheim - a maximum care hospital. Illnesses from the eyes to the toes are treated here at the highest level. With 622 beds and 2,000 employees, the RoMed Hospital Rosenheim is the largest hospital in the RoMed clinic network.

#### Specialist departments are:

- · certified Chest Pain Unit and Stroke Unit
- The breast center, gynecological center, oncological center and visceral oncological center for the intestines
- Our perinatal center for the support of high-risk pregnancies and the outstanding care of even the smallest premature babies and newborns











The RoMed Clinic Bad Aibling is a basic and standard care hospital and treats around 20,000 outpatients and inpatients every year.

#### The main departments of the house:

- Visceral and Trauma surgery
- internal medicine
- anesthesia
- and ear, nose and throat medicine.

There are medical collaborations for gynecology, as well as orthopedics with endoprosthetics (joint replacement) and spinal surgery.









## **CSSDs Places of the RoMed Clinics**



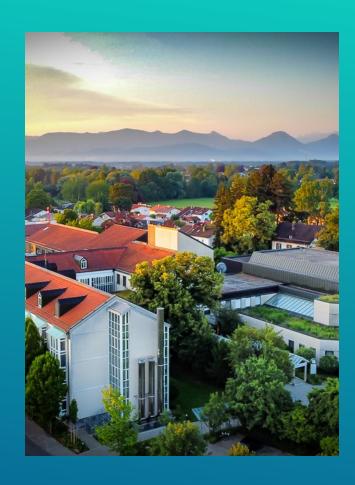
#### **CSSD** Rosenheim

- Since 2009 placed in the basement of the hospital
  - 2022 produced 35.000 StU
  - 2023 produced 49.000 StU
- 25 employees in a 2 shift system, full-time and parttime workers
- Opening hours: 6 am till 0 am
- All surgical departments including robotics and Critical C Medical Products
- Manufacture certificated under EN ISO 13485 since 2012
- Manufacture structure Getinge
  - 5 washer one Chamber washer and 1 largecapacity washer for Container and Transport trollies
  - 3 steam sterilizer with capacity of 8 StU each,









#### **CSSD Bad Aibling**

- Since 2022 placed in the basement of the new Building
  - 2022 produced 16.000 StU
  - 2023 produced 23.000 StU
- 15 employees in a 2 shift system, full-time and part-time workers
- Opening hours: 6 am till 1 am
- All surgical departments preparation till Critical B Medical Products of the Clinics Bad Aibling, Wasserburg and Prien
- Manufacture certificated under EN ISO 13485 since 2022
- Manufacture structure MMM
  - 5 washer one Chamber washer and 1 largecapacity washer for Container and Transport trollies
  - 3 steam sterilizer with capacity of 8 StU each







## 2. Validation - What's that?

The validation is used to verify the performance and to demonstrate the reproducibility of the standardized procedures.

A validation consists of:

- Installation Qualification (IQ),
- Operational Qualification(OQ) and
- Performance Qualification (PQ).

In CSSDs the Performance Qualification is the Validation of Medical devices or Processes which take parts in the reprocessing of a medical product.

Is repeated annualy in the form of a so called "Requalification" and is an exciting process for everyone involved.



# 3. Why we do process validation?



a. National Regulations

 Joint recommendation of the Commission for Hospital Hygiene and Infection Prevention and the Federal Institute for Drugs and Medical Devices

"Suitable validated procedures within the meaning of Section 8 MPBetreibV (Medical Device Operator Regulation) are procedures, which consistently and reproducibly deliver a defined result (in particular cleanliness, low germ count/sterility and functionality).

When reprocessing a medical device, the sum of all the mechanical and manual processes involved (complementary individual steps of processing) contributes to achieving the respective processing goal. ...

With the validation of the preparation processes, **the parameters are also defined**, which are required to prove that the respective process (individual step of preparation, e.g. cleaning, disinfection and sterilization of medical devices) was passed through in a form that achieves guaranteed according to the specified specifications"

Epid Bull 2018;6:67 – 68 | DOI 10.17886/EpiBull-2018-006









Medical Device Operator Regulation – Section 8 "Processing of medical devices"

The reprocessing of medical devices that are intended to be used in a low-germ or sterile manner **must be carried out using suitable, validated procedures, taking into account the manufacturer's information**, in such a way that the success of these procedures is comprehensibly guaranteed and the safety and health of patients, users or third parties is not endangered. This also applies to medical devices that are disinfected or sterilized before their first use. (MDBetreibV, §8 (1), 21.04.2021/833)

• MDR 2017/745- Chapter 1, Section 2 "Definitions" - Number 39

"Reprocessing" means a process to which a used product is subjected in order to make it safe can be reused; These procedures include cleaning, disinfection, sterilization and similar Procedures as well as tests and restoration of the technical and functional safety of the used product;

 Guideline compiled by German Society of Hospital Hygiene (DGKH), German Society of Sterile Supply (DGSV) and Working Group Instrument Preparation (AKI)







#### b) Promise Quality Management in the interests of patient safety

Control process that ensures that our daily work meets our quality standards and regulatory requirements

Technical exchange with validation experts helps to evaluate and adapt the processes to the latest state of the art

Validation of processes and devices enables a critical examination of all components: people - machines - consumables

#### c) Conclusion















# 4. Which processes do we validate?

- a) Cleaning and Disinfection process based on the DIN EN ISO 15885 and the Guideline compiled by German Society of Hospital Hygiene (DGKH), German Society of Sterile Supply (DGSV) and Working Group Instrument Preparation (AKI) for validation and routine monitoring of automated cleaning and thermal disinfection processes for medical devices (2024)
- b) Sterilization Process based on the DIN EN 285 and DIN EN ISO 17665
- c) Packaging Process based on DIN EN ISO 11607 and the Guideline compiled by German Society of Hospital Hygiene (DGKH), German Society of Sterile Supply (DGSV) and Working Group Instrument Preparation (AKI) for the validation of packaging processes according (2020)





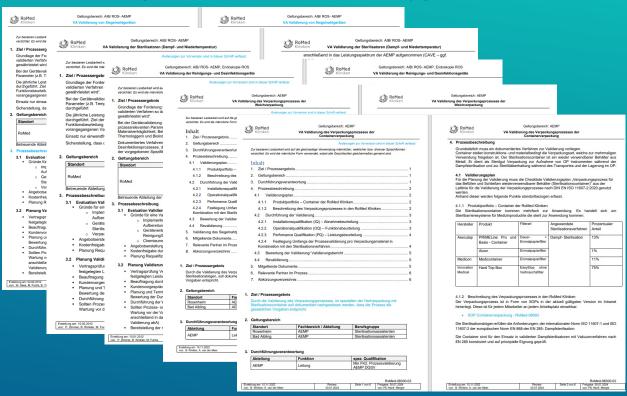






## 5. How we do that?

At first we define the hole procedure for the Validation of Processes in the CSSD together with the hospital Hygiene and medical technology.



- **Process Result**
- Scope
- **Process description** 
  - Evaluation
  - Plan
  - Implementation
  - Documentation an Release
  - Requalification
- Partner in Process
- **Valid Documents**





# 4 Main Steps of Validation

4. Review Validation Report and Release

1. Scheduling and Preliminary Talk

3. Final Meeting and Validation Report

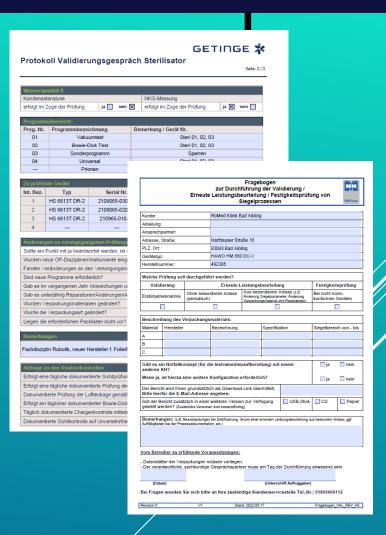
2. Process Validation





1. Scheduling and Preliminary Talk

- Maintenance must be done before validation
- Filling out the Checklist of the validation Technician
  - 3 pages with information
    - Company/Hospital contact information
    - Reason of Validation (IQ, OQ, PQ or REQ)
      - · Periodical without a special Reason
      - For special Reason
    - Water Analyses
    - Program overview
    - Device List
    - Using Types of packing (Sterilization REQ)
    - Changes compared to the last REQ
    - Routine Checks
- Scheduling and Information of Partner in Process
  - OR Coordination and Staff
  - Department of Medical Technology
  - CSSD Team











#### Definition of Load configuration of the Washer/ Sterilizer - in Cooperation with Validation Technician

#### Set Focus on:

- Soiled Medical Device(MP)
- Worst case load
- Heavy sets
- Difficult construction of the MP
- MP with difficulties in reprocessing during the last validation
- New MP Group

#### Challenge for the Validation Team (CSSD + Technician):

- Getting same load configuration for the hole days of validation
- Willingness to cooperate on the part of the operating room staff





3. Final Meeting and Validation Report

#### Final Meeting between Technician and CSSD staff

 Discussion of the validation process with notes for future reprocessing process

#### **Validation Report**

Structure of the documentation includes:

- · a summary,
- tests process,
- routine checks,
- results and differences,
- recommendations for improvement and
- observation period

The appendix contains calibration documents and evidence of the technician's qualifications.



During the first 4 Pages of the Report, the Result of the Validation will be written.







4. Review Validation Report and Release

#### Each validation report must be released by the CSSD operator.



- Review the Report with Focus on:
  - Completeness
  - Accuracy
  - Clarity



- 2. Let other disciplines take a look in the Report
  - Department of Hospital hygiene
  - **Department of Medical Technology**



3. Release of Validation Report by the Management of the Hospital

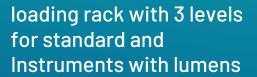




## 6. Take a Look into the Validation Process of the CSSDs in RoMed

#### a) Validation of the Cleaning and Disinfection Process







loading rack with 4 levels for standard and Instruments without lumens



Loading rack with 3 levels for standard and special instruments (ophthalmology)



Load carrier for medical devices for anesthesia





#### Loading trollies for the big chamber washer



Loading rack with 2 levels for standard and special instruments (Robotic MD, DaVinci)



Loading trollies for baskets, plastic transport tubes, container





Loading trolly for standard Instruments without lumens







## Testing method in practice

#### 1) Standardized test specimen - Crile Clamp



The Crile Clamp with test soiling according to guidelines 2017. Test soiling is carried out in a qualified laboratory using sheep blood. The instrument is then dried in a drying cabinet and vacuum packed.

2) Real soiling MD of the OR















## Testing of cleaning performance – with real soiled Instruments or testing devices



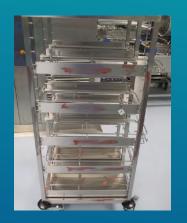


4





**Testing Examples for the LCW** 





Examples of soiled Instruments with different construction (Heavy or lumens)



















#### Anesthesia MD with preparing







Testing of real soiled MD of robotics and ophthalmology















#### b) Validation of the Sterilization Process



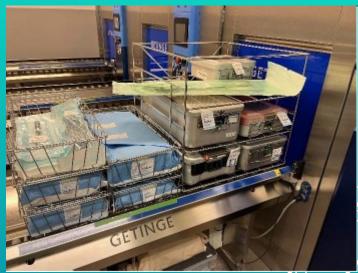
**CSSD Bad Aibling** 



Reference load configuration for validation including:

- Heavy loads,
- all different packaging materials,
- maximum stacking



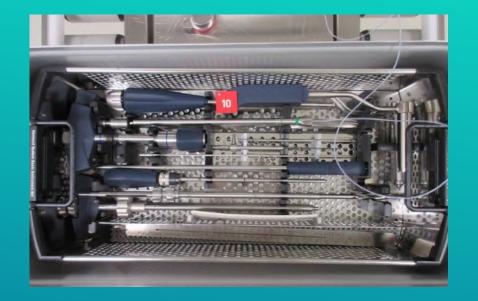


**CSSD** Rosenheim











Instruments with temperature or pressure sensors











Kurzbezeichnung der beschriebenen Beladungskonfiguration: Referenzmischbeladung		
Verteilung der Temperatursensoren:		
Temperatursensoren - Nr:	Bezeichnung des Sets:	Verpackung / Hersteller etc.:
# 15136229	Drain / Kammer - Referenztemperatur	
4 #15160996 K1	LSK Grund	Innen Papier, außen Vlies, Sieb auf Absorbervlies verpackt
5 #15160996 K2	LSK Grund	Innen Papier, außen Vlies, Sieb auf Absorbervlies verpackt
6 #15160997 K1	Grundsieb	Sieb doppelt in Vlies (SMMMS), mit Absorbervlies verpackt
#15160997 K2	nicht eingesetzt	
8 #15160998 K1	Condor Bauch	Sieb doppelt in Vlies (Standard), mit Absorbervlies verpackt
9 #15160998 K2	RF Bipo Kabel	doppelt in Folie/Papier
10 #15160999 K1	Gammanagel	Container Farbr. Medicon mit zwei Einmalfilter im Deckel
11 #15160999 K2	Gammanagel	Container Farbr. Medicon mit zwei Einmalfilter im Deckel
12 #15161001 K1	Storz TipCam 30°C	Container Fa. Aesculap mit zwei mehrweg Filtern im Deckel
#15161001 K2	nicht eingesetzt	
14 #15252398 K1	Recon modular	Container Fa. Innovations mit zwei Pasteuischer Schleife im Deckel
#15252398 K2	nicht eingesetzt	



**5** – Set "LSK Grund" – Packaging : inside paper, outside fleece, set standing directly on absorb fleece



9 - Set "RF Bipo Kabel" - Packaging : double in foil-paper sealed packaging







#### c) Packaging process validation

**Note**: Every type of packaging must be validated - not only as part of sterilization, but also the packaging process itself must be validated.

#### 3 Types of packaging process





Soft packaging Fleece



Soft packaging Foil Material







Container

#### Photo Documentation of Packaging for Sterilization

Fleece

















Note: all different types of container or fleece must be validated

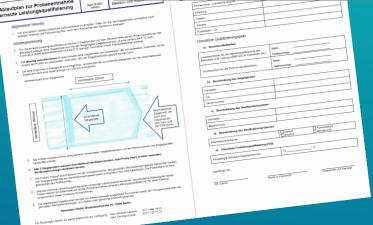






Foil Material









**Note:** Each type of foil paper/fleece (with and without folds) and manufacturer must be validated depending on the sterilization program







### What are the advantages and disadvantages of validation in my personal experience?

Validation is like a seal of quality, it shows us that our processes meet the high national requirements and the state of the art.

- Validation as a tool allowed us for a better understanding our processes
- Find weaknesses and address them
- Have an external expert who supports us every year again
  - For questions
  - Refine our processes
- Let us implement a continuous improvement cycle
- A written proof to ourself and to our stakeholders that we are following best practices

Carrying out validation can sometimes be a challenging journey for the CSSD and its partners in the process - in a positive sense.







#### References

- RKI/BfArM 2012: Hygiene Requirements for the Reprocessing of Medical Devices

  https://www.rki.de/DE/Content/Infekt/Krankenhaushygiene/Kommission/Downloads/Hygiene\_Requirements\_Medical\_Devices\_2012.pdf?\_\_blob=publicationFile (English); DOI 10.1007/s00103-012-1548-6 (German)
- DIN EN 285: 2016 Sterilization Steam sterilizers Large sterilizers
- ISO 17665-1:2006 Sterilization of health care products Moist heat Part 1: Requirements for the development, validation and routine control of a sterilization process for medical devices
- Guideline for validation and routine monitoring of automated cleaning and thermal disinfection processes for medical devices (DGKH, DGSV+AKI)- 2024
- Guideline for validation of Packaging Process DIN EN ISO 11607 (DGKH, DGSV +AKI) 2021 Link for all Guidelines: https://www.dgsv-ev.de/fachinformationen/leitlinien/
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Thanks for your attention!

The CSSDs of Rosenheim and Bad Aibling sends greetings to Chile





