

## **Damien S. Berg, BA, BS, CRCST, AAMIF**

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### **EDUCATION**

1993 Combat Medic School – US Army  
1996 Paramedic – National Registry  
2002 Sports Therapist – Stonebridge College  
2002 B.A. bachelor's in business – University of Madison  
2011 B.S. Health Care Administration – Colorado State University  
2007 CRCST – IAHCSSM  
2012 Bronze and Silver Certified in Process Improvement (LEAN / Six Sigma)

### **OCCUPATION**

**July 2021- Current**

#### **HSPA (Healthcare Sterile Processing Association)**

Vice President of Strategic Initiatives

- Develops strategic initiatives and priorities to advance and drive the organization's strategic initiatives and priorities.
- Develop strategic partnerships to increase the visibility, recognition, and value of sterile processing among healthcare associations, healthcare administrators, and regulatory bodies.
- Participates in and keeps well-informed of the activities of industry standards organizations and regulatory bodies.
- Represents the organization at various industry events to raise awareness of the organization and the sterile processing field.
- Works closely with Chapters to build relationships and ensure priorities are aligned with the mission of the organization.

**July 2019 – Current**

#### **UCHealth Special Projects Manager of Sterile Processing**

Medical Center of the Rockies, Poudre Valley Hospital, Greeley Hospital, and Surgery South

- Direct oversight of the Northern Colorado Sterile Processing departments
- Serve as Co-Chair for the Systems Sterilization Committee for 12 Hospitals
- Developing training program for the region and system (SPD 101)
- Developing internal and external regulatory audit programs for all Sterile Processing departments
- Developed COVID-19 processes for the sanitation and disinfection of PPE and testing swabs utilizing UV Technology.

**Feb 2018 – June 2019**

#### **Centura Health System Director of Sterile Processing**

- Leadership and oversight of 16 hospital sterile processing departments in 2 states (Colorado and Kansas)
- Regulatory oversight for the system to include all Joint Commission, FDA, CDC, and State Department of health requirements in Sterile Processing and High-Level Disinfection
- Implementation of staffing models for each facility to meet the demand of the customer with quality outcomes.
- Developed a training plan to standardize the system SPD requirements.
- Developed state-of-the-art electronic tracking system for daily, weekly, and monthly quality reports for SPD decontamination and sterilization equipment.

- Implemented supply and equipment standardization among all SPD departments.
- Implemented system SPD tech float pool to staff and resource all SPD departments.

**July 2016- June 2019**

**St. Anthony and Ortho Colorado Hospital, Lakewood, CO**

**Sterile Processing Manager**

- Currently working as the department manager for St. Anthony Hospital, 26 Staff members and 13 operating rooms.
- Oversee all sterile processing operations for Ortho Colorado Hospital,, a “for-profit” Orthopedic hospital with 8 operating rooms.
- Planned, Designed, and opened a new free-standing Ambulatory Surgery Center for Centura Health.
- Oversaw the entire department’s processes and updated all policies and procedures to meet the current national standards and improve workflow and customer satisfaction.

**Aug 2015- July 2016**

**St. Vincent Hospital (Synergy Health) Indianapolis, IN**

**Sterile Processing Manager**

- Worked as operations manager for a large Sterile Processing Department with 62 staff members, 3 geographically separated departments serving over 50 operating rooms.
- Developed KPIs (Key performance indicators) for the department and maintained a monthly budget of over \$500K.
- Changed the department culture in less than a year, resulting in higher employee satisfaction, lower turnover rates, and increased OR satisfaction.
- Implemented new policies and procedures to drive process improvements and real-world results that enabled the department to pass the Joint Commission survey and State Health Department visits.

**June 2013- Aug 2015**

**University of Colorado Health**

**Performance Improvement Department**

- Working with newly developed region departments to facilitate, coach, and mentor departments with LEAN / Process improvement initiatives.
- Actualizing a 3.2 million dollar monthly saving by working more efficiently, reducing waste, and respecting the people by helping develop better processes.
- Standing up two regional service lines (ED, EMS, BH, UC) and (Radiology / Lab/ Pathology) and two system service lines (ED/ Trauma and Lab) to systemize clinical and business operations by developing dashboards and scorecards from the front-line staff, department leaders and system leadership.
- Departments that I have been working with (Radiology, Cardiac, Emergency, Urgent Care, Ortho, and Lab)

**Sep 2006 – June 2013 Medical Center of the Rockies, Loveland CO**

***Manager of Sterile Processing***

- Opened and staffed a brand-new state-of-the-art Level II regional Trauma center with 17 sterile processing techs, serving 8 Operating rooms, ED/Trauma, Respiratory, GI, and OB departments, and several outside medical offices.
- Created a staffing and business plan that allowed the expansion of staff, supplies, and equipment to meet the demand for 6 more operating rooms for a total of 14 rooms in 3 different geographically located

departments. This ensured the smooth flow of instruments, equipment, and implants while reducing the inventory and operating costs by 25%.

- Designed 3 SPD departments in the last 7 years and consultant to the Northern CO region on SPD issues and concepts.
- Worked as intern PeriOp business manager when MCR opened. Responsible for ordering all inventory, charge master, scheduling, and physician recruitment.

### **Aug 1999 – July 2013 National Guard**

#### ***Medical Supervisor***

- Medical supervisor and trainer for several units in the National Guard
- Prior supervisor for the State of California's Military disaster response team
- Teach and lecture military members on medical readiness and deployment.
- Oversight and budget responsibility for 3.5 billion worth of medical and deployment assets.

### **Aug 05- March 06 Balad Hospital, Iraq**

#### ***Combat Medic, Scrub Tech, Supervisor***

- Assigned to the number 1 Trauma hospital in the world.
- Supervisor of Expeditionary Medical Unit
- Provided 24 / 7 emergency care for our severely wounded both in the ER and OR, as well as front-line medical work. Trained front-line firefighters, cops, and infantry with lifesaving medical skills.

### **Awards and Achievements:**

- 1998 Audie Murphy Award for leadership – Department of the Army
- 2005 and 2007 Sergeant of the Year of the State of California
- 2012 Sterile Processing Manager of the Year- IAHCSSMM
- 2013 Infection Control Today "Who's Who"
- 2013 Northern Colorado Young Professional of the Year
- 2017 AAMI Sterilization Standards Developer of the Year Award
- 2017-2020 President of IAHCSSMM
- 2020 AAMI Fellowship
- 2020-2024 Executive Board Member for the World Federation of Sterilization Science
- 2023 HSPA Award of Honor

### **Speaking and Industry Experience:**

- 2006- Current: Voting Member of AAMI ST-79 (Steam Sterilization)
- 2012- Current: Voting Member of AAMI ST91 (Endoscopes)
- 2013-2018: Co-Chair for AAMI ST-77 (Rigid Containers)
- 2013- 2019 Current: Co-Chair for AAMI ST-85 (Quality Systems)
- 2018-Current: Co-Chair for AAMI TIR12 (Cleaning Instructions for Medical Devices)
- 2018-Current: United States expert representative to the International Standards Organization (ISO) for reprocessing of medical devices.
- 2012-2020: AAMI Benchmarking Tool Co-Developer of SPD areas
- 2009-Current: National and International Speaker on Sterilization, High-Level Disinfection, Infection Control, Motivation / Management
- Appointed as National Government Affairs Committee Chair for IAHCSSMM
- Authored and co-authored several articles for AAMI, BT&I, ICT, and IAHCSSMM

- 2014 –2020: Appointed as Editorial Board Member for BI&T magazine
- Legal Medical Expert Witness (Research and testify and provide expert opinion on medical cases involving Sterile Processing)

**Personal Interests:**

- Proud to be elected as Councilmember and Mayor Pro-Tem for the Town of Johnstown CO 2012-2016 and 2020-2024
- Writing (working on a book that deals with my time in Iraq as a Medic)
- Spending time outdoors (anything and everything)
- Commander of the VFW Post #2585 (Veterans of Foreign Wars), and active member of American Legion post #70, and Masons.