

April 2011

*1. Do you have a quality assurance system in place for inspecting surgical instruments at your Trust?*

Yes, the Sterile Services department is subject to internal and external audits. The department has ISO9001:2008; EN13485:2003 and MDD93/42/EEC accreditation.

*2. If yes, how many inspectors are employed by the Trust, and how are the instruments checked? For example: Visual check, use of specialist magnification equipment etc.*

There are 32 staff employed within the Sterile Services department. The majority of these are responsible for checking instruments using a variety of different methods – visually; under illuminated magnifiers; using continuity testers and insulation tester for electrosurgical equipment. Regular bioburden tests are also carried out on instruments to check washer efficiency and environmental controls.

*3. If yes, do the inspectors work within a Quality Management System ISO?*

Yes, see above.