

Infection Prevention and Control for LARC procedures in General Practice

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For guidance on infection prevention control for LARC procedures in general practice please see this document:

Infection Prevention and control for Primary Care in Ireland: A Guide for General Practice. Available here

<http://www.hpsc.ie/A-Z/MicrobiologyAntimicrobialResistance/InfectionControlandHAI/Guidelines/File,14612,en.pdf>

The document states the following:

Practices that use sterile medical devices must choose from the following 3 options

1. Use sterile single use devices, which will obviate the need for decontamination.

This is approach recommended by the ICGP

2. Have reusable devices sterilised by a certified Sterile Services Department (SSD).

This option is generally not available to GPs.

3. Decontaminate and reprocess devices in the practice.

There are detailed national standards on how this should be done, which a GP needs to consider if choosing this method. These standards are available at the following link:

<http://www.hse.ie/eng/about/Who/qualityandpatientsafety/Medical-Devices/decontamination/Guidance-for-Application-of-Standards-and-Recommended-Practices-in-Primary-Care-Local-Decontamination-Units.pdf>

There is also a video of the process in action in a dental LDU local decontamination unit. Available here:

<http://www.hse.ie/eng/about/Who/qualityandpatientsafety/Medical-Devices/decontamination/>

Standards are the same for any local contamination unit.