Review purpose, principles, and steps of Procedures, including:

- Use flash sterilization only in an emergency/when no other means is available
- First step in decontaminating instruments = rinse off or place in ultrasonic
- Cameras require low sterilization temperature
- Standard temperature and time for sterilizing surgical steel instruments = 270°F for 4 minutes
- Instrument set-up and assembly, select and inspect instruments according to the count sheet
- Last step in assembling a tray = add a lock
- Place absorbent material between nested basins before sterilizing to absorb moisture
- Disassemble laparoscopic instruments before sterilizing
- Place indicator in tray so that it is easily visible
- Ultrasonic cleaning not recommended for eye instruments
- Sequence after decontamination = inspect instruments, assemble tray

Review facts and principles of Sterility, including:

- Shelf life of a sterile package is event-related: handling, storage, integrity of the package can interfere with shelf life. Sterility remains indefinitely (time-related), though manufacturer’s recommendations for time may relate to the stability of contents
- Apply dust cover when trays will be transported through hospital corridors outside the department
- Steam sterilization kills spores
- Store sterile items at least 8 – 10 inches from the floor and on a solid shelf
- Change into clean scrubs before entering area

Review rules, principles, and procedures for Quality Assurance tests, including:

- Test Bowie Dick (leak) every 24 hours
- Biological indicator is used to test steam sterilizer when sterilizing an implant
- Test washer/disinfector = clip plastic strip to an empty basket in the middle of the washer
- Purpose of air removal test = assure that the sterilizer creates a vacuum and steam replaces air

Review the procedures and desired findings for Inspection of Instruments, including:

- Needle holder is free of cracks or erosion
- Self-retaining retractor retains open or closed position
- Forceps springs back
- Inspect plastic lock for color change after sterilization
- Reject if light is visible between jaws of needle holder when jaws are closed

Review situations that require Reporting to Your Supervisor, such as:

- Report body part sent in basin from OR

Review Documentation Requirements, such as:

- Documenting temperature and length of exposure for each sterilizer load
- Documenting biological indicators, expiration date, when placed in incubator, lot number

Review Safety practices and procedures, such as:

- Decontamination, wear gloves, gown, mask, face shield, shoe covers, hair cover
- Load heavy items on bottom of sterilizer cart