



Position Statement on Aseptic Technique by the CSA

Infection prevention and control is a continually evolving discipline which is based on research and evidence-based practice. Asepsis or aseptic means free from pathogenic microorganisms.* Aseptic technique is the purposeful prevention of the transfer of organisms from one person to another by keeping the microbe count to an irreducible minimum.

The goal of aseptic technique is to protect the patient by preventing or minimizing postoperative infection by creating conditions and following procedures to prevent the introduction of microbial contamination to sterile fields, sterile equipment and the operative site.†

Therefore, it is the position of the NSAA that individuals, who hold a valid credential of CSA, have the knowledge and experience to apply these principles of aseptic technique in their practice to all patients to aid in the reduction of postoperative surgical site infections.

*Rowley S, Clare S, Macqueen S, Molyneux R. ANTT v2: an updated practice framework for aseptic technique. *Br J Nurs.* 2010;19:S5–S11.

†Operating Room Nurses Association of Canada (ORNAC). 2009. *Standards, guidelines, and position statements for perioperative registered nursing practice.*