

Case Study: My Community Dental Centers

Background

My Community Dental Centers (MCDC), headquartered in Boyne City, Michigan, is a fast growing, non-profit dental support organization with over 36 dental offices in Michigan. Established in 2006, MCDC is dedicated to providing dental services to Medicaid enrollees and low-income, uninsured residents throughout the state of Michigan.

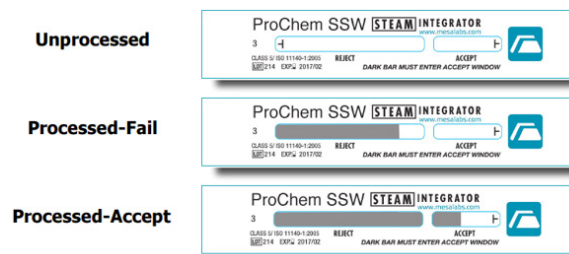


The Challenge

Nicole Murray, R.N., B.S.N., Quality & Patient Safety Administrator at MCDC has managed coordinating and bringing MCDC dental offices into “compliance” with weekly biological sterilizer monitoring. Since mail-in spore testing is dependent on postal delivery times, test results may take a number of days before final results are available. Despite having improved their compliance rate organization-wide to over 98%, Nicole wanted to improve their office’s ability to monitor sterilizers on a daily basis while waiting for weekly mail-in spore test results.

The Solution

MCDC partnered with Mesa Labs consultants to create a Daily Sterilization Verification Protocol, using Mesa’s Class 5 ProChem SSW Integrators. A Class 5 integrator mimics the ability of a biological indicator without requiring incubation waiting periods. Integrators can detect certain types of sterilization process failures, such as inappropriate air-steam mixtures, inadequate air removal, inadequate cycle times, etc. which may not be noticed by physical monitors or other types of chemical indicators.



All MCDC locations are now using Mesa’s Class 5 ProChem SSW Integrators every day to enhance their sterilizer monitoring procedures, providing an additional level of safety to a network of dental centers that serve over 90,000 individuals.

Testimonial

“Collaborating with Mesa Laboratories and incorporating the Class 5 integrator strips in our sterilization protocol provides assurance for our patients and improves our autoclave compliance.”

-MCDC