

# Monitoring your decontamination and reprocessing cycle

1er Journee National sur la Sterilisation  
La Societe Marocaine de Sterilisation  
Maroc 2011

Ahmed Ghatwary/SteriGMS/Pharcomedic

GHATWARY MEDICAL



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- 1-Cleaning step, the most important part of the decontamination cycle.
- 2-SBS, its importance and the international norms.
- 3-Monitroing your sterilization process and assuring SAL
- 4-Conclusion

# Cost of hospital infections

- USA recent research:
- Deaths due to hospital infection:  
77,000 p.a
- Infected patients:  
2,200,000 p.a
- Average excess hospitalization:  
4 days
- Average cost per day:  
500 \$
- Total cost of extra care:  
4,500 Million US \$



# Sterility - How do you know ?

- Those responsible for sterilization need to know if their sterilization process was effective.
- Secure sterilization relies on the correct performance of the apparatus, the operator and packaging materials





**The chain is as strong as its  
weakest link**

# Cleaning Processes

- Instrument cleaning is the first and arguably the most important step in the decontamination process.
- Microscopic quantities of blood, skin, mucous etc. left on the instruments by an ineffective washing process can seriously compromise the overall sterility of the instruments.

# How to monitor our cleaning processes???

# Manual Cleaning

- We have to monitor the cleaning efficacy of the operator.
- By the end of the day we don't get the same results as the beginning of the day.
- Some devices are more complex than others, thus require better cleaning.
- Sometimes combined with Ultrasonic cleaning
- Always dismantle instruments when possible
- Separate sinks washing and rinsing.
- Use Distilled water.
- Protein testing is a way to monitor your manual cleaning, according to HTMo105 it's a daily test
- Inspection before sterilization



# Washer disinfecter

- Always better than manual cleaning
- Complying with the ISO 15883.
- Protocol in accordance with the 15883
- Use the right PCD ( process challenge device)
- Use good source of water for rinse.
- Use one of the soil tests mentioned in the ISO 15883-5
- Documentation of the results
- Validating according to IQ, OQ and PQ.

# EN ISO 15883

- Part 1: General requirements, terms and definitions and tests
- Part 2: Requirements and tests for washer-disinfectors employing thermal disinfection for surgical instruments, anesthetic equipment, bowls, dishes, receivers, utensils, glassware, etc.
- Part 3: Requirements and tests for washer-disinfectors employing thermal disinfection for human waste containers
- Part 4: Requirements and tests for washer-disinfectors employing chemical disinfection for thermolabile endoscopes
- Part 5: Test soils and methods for demonstrating cleaning efficacy (Technical Specification)

# Materials used in sterilization

# What is an SBS?

- SBS refers to Sterile barrier system
- Allows sterilization of the item
- Provides physical protection and microbial barrier
- Maintain sterility over certain period of time
- Allows aseptic presentation at point of use

# 1- Pouches and Reels

- 1-One side medical grade paper and the other side film
- 2-The paper has class 1 indicators to ensure that the pack has been processed
- 3-The sealing machine must be validated to make sure that there is no tracks in the seal (Seal check)
- 4-It must be rightly packed, stored to be stored for and intended certain of time.

# Requirements of International Norms

- Paper has to be not less than 60gsm (Micro tears)
- Medical grade paper acting as a microbial barrier(long and short fibres)
- Some people use 70gsm paper
- Film preferable to be over 60gsm
- Printing requirements (class 1 indicator, etc)
- No visible damage to the film

## 2-Crepe paper

- It is a medical grade paper
- It is used to wrap the items to be sterilized then to be loaded in the sterilizer.
- It has no indicator
- Manufactured from Long fibers to ensure penetration of steam and then acts as microbial barrier
- Must Be double packed and the right way of packing must be used (tortuous path)

# Difference in wrapping materials

	Crepe Paper	SMS	Non woven
Most common basis weight	60 gsm	45 gsm	57 gsm
Composition	100% cellulose	100% PP	Mix
Advantages	No drying problems	Strength	Drapeability and strength
Disadvantages	Weak in wet conditions	Drying problems	None
Pricing	Lowest	Highest	High



# Wrapping paper

- Micro tears can appear in case we don't use the right gsm.
- Double wrap has become a must.
- Appearance of interfoliage products for double wrapping.
- Claims against the ordinary SMS use for the time being.
- Right method of wrapping is a must to guarantee sterility.

# 3-Tape

- It is used to close the crepe paper
- It has an indicator of class 1 printed to make sure that the load has entered the sterilizer.
- It can not be considered as a validation of the steam sterilization cycle.

# Tape Class 1 indicator

- EN ISO 11140:2009
- Class 1 indicator is an indicator that changes its color at a certain temperature and time.
- It must have good adhesion.
- Clear color change
- Resistant to temperature

# 4-Tyvek

- One side Tyvek and the other film.
- The Tyvek side has printed on it indicators for plasma.
- Tyvek was manufactured mainly to replace paper for plasma sterilization
- Tyvek is the brand name, Material is LPDE
- Dupont is the only manufacturer
- Only the GSM can be different and coating

# Tyvek

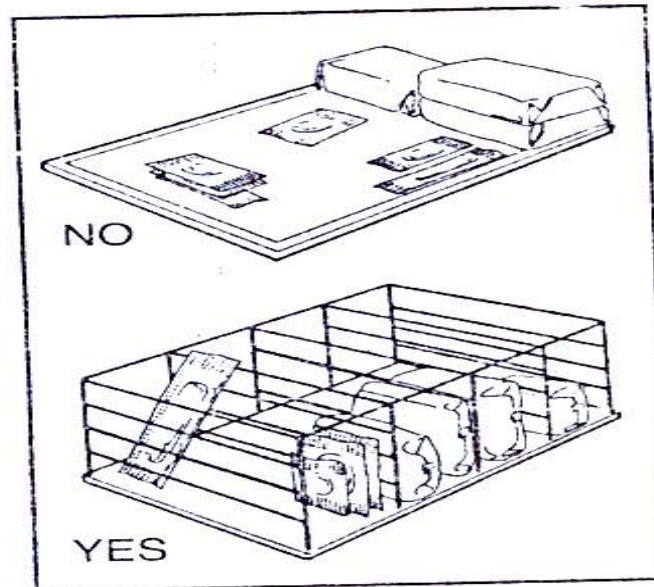
- Reason is CELLULOSTIC
- It can be used for ETO and steam under certain conditions
- Higher strength and tear resistance.
- It can be used for sharp items and heavy loads.

# 5-Self Seal Pouch

- One side paper one side film.
- Instead of heat sealing, self sealing
- Various sizes
- Class 1 indicator printed
- Used a lot in dentistry
- Can be used as a backup in case sealing machine is broken
- Follow the instructions of use for sealing the double face.

# The operator

- Washing..Washing...Washing!!!!
- Washing is monitored through the soil test.
- Packaging using the right method.
- Loading in the apparatus using the right method.



# International Norms

- “The product shall not be printed on any surface which is designed to come into direct contact with the items to be packaged”
- “Information required to be printed on the surface of reels and pouches is specified”
- “Materials shall not be leaching and odourless under specified conditions of use”
- “Materials shall be free of holes cracks “
- Materials shall have a basis weight which is consistent”



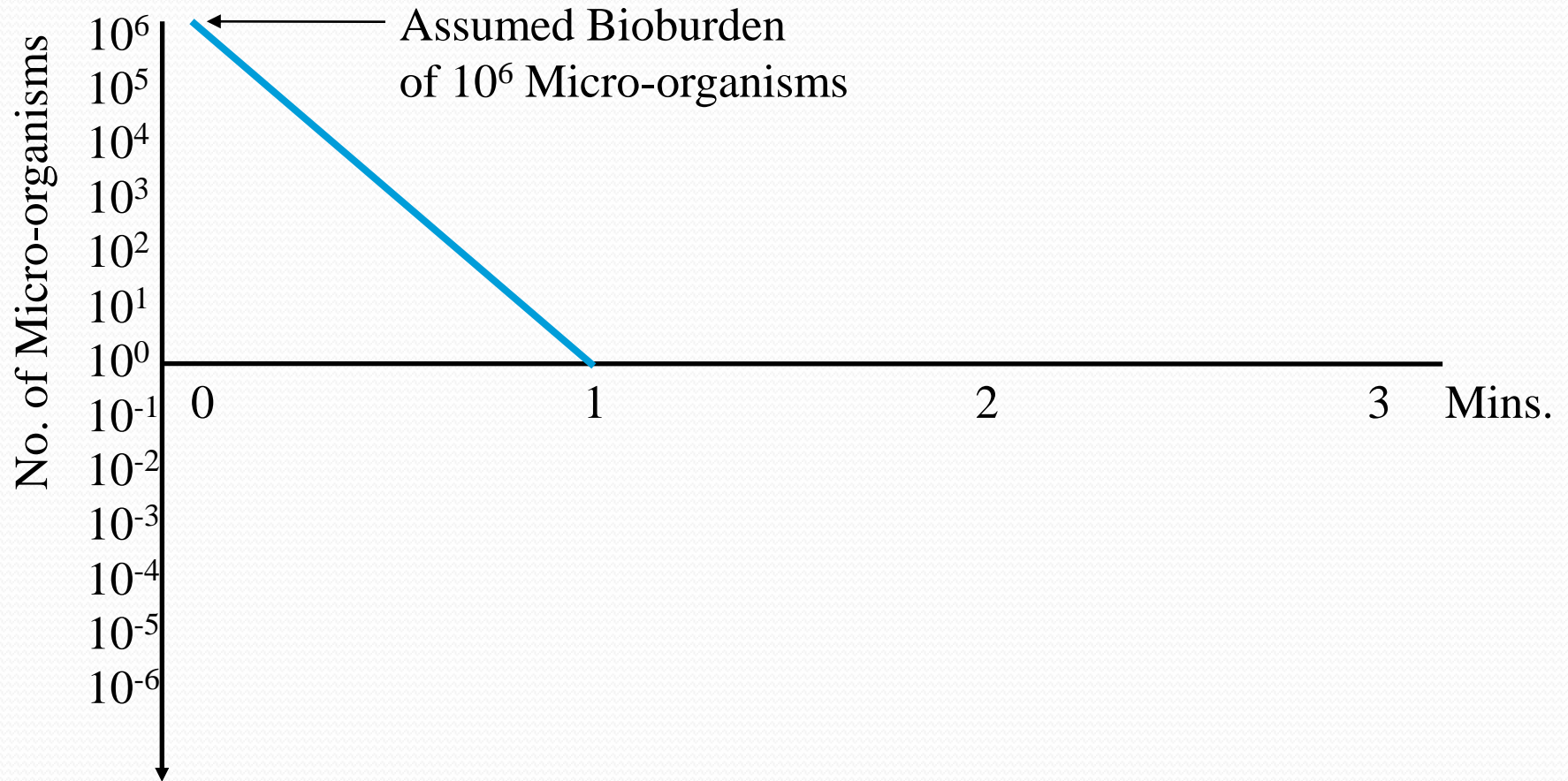
# Monitoring your sterilization

# Sterility Assurance

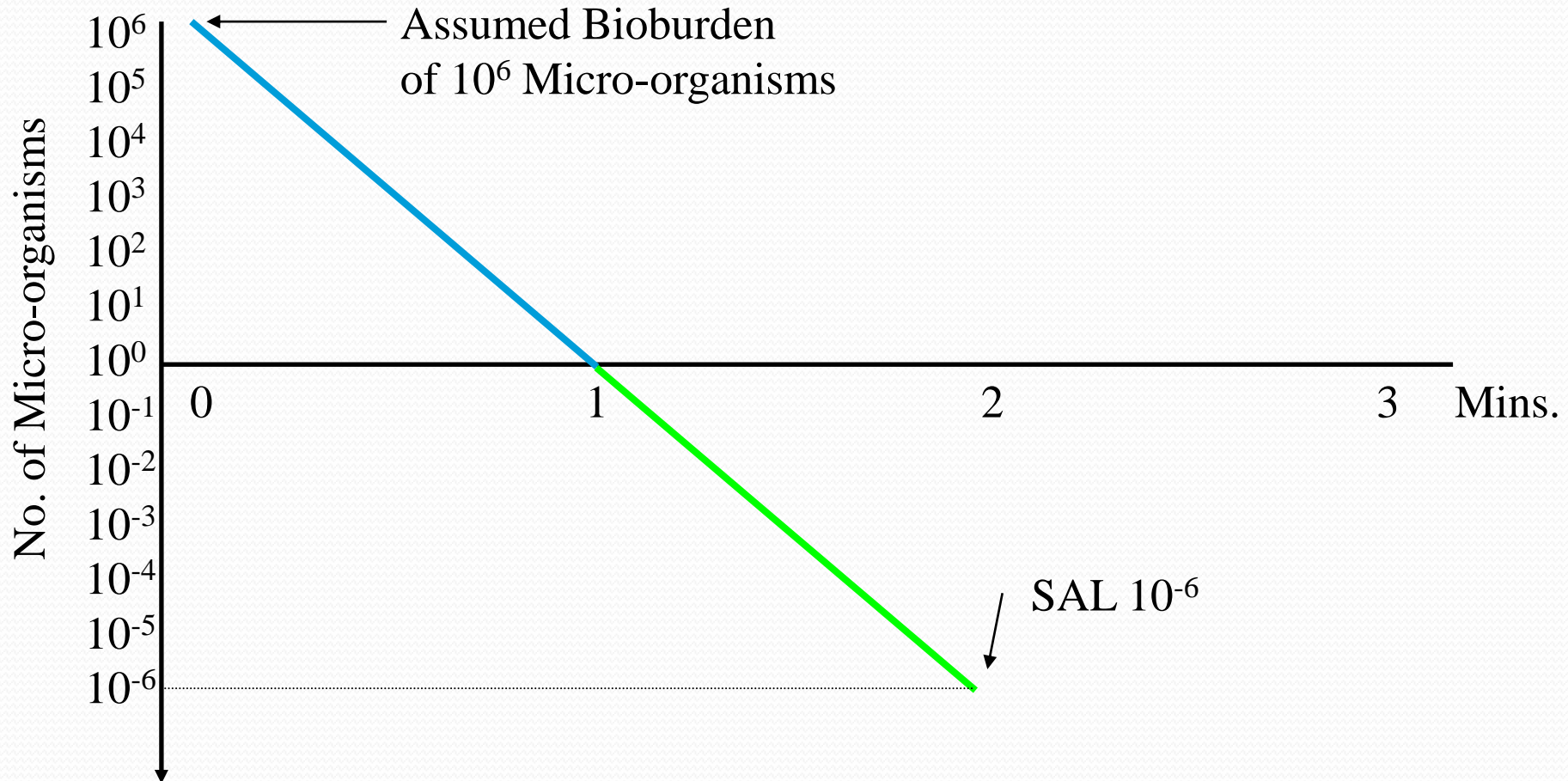
The Sterility Assurance Level, or SAL, is a measure of the confidence in the attainment of sterility

- a probability of 1 unsterile load in 1,000,000

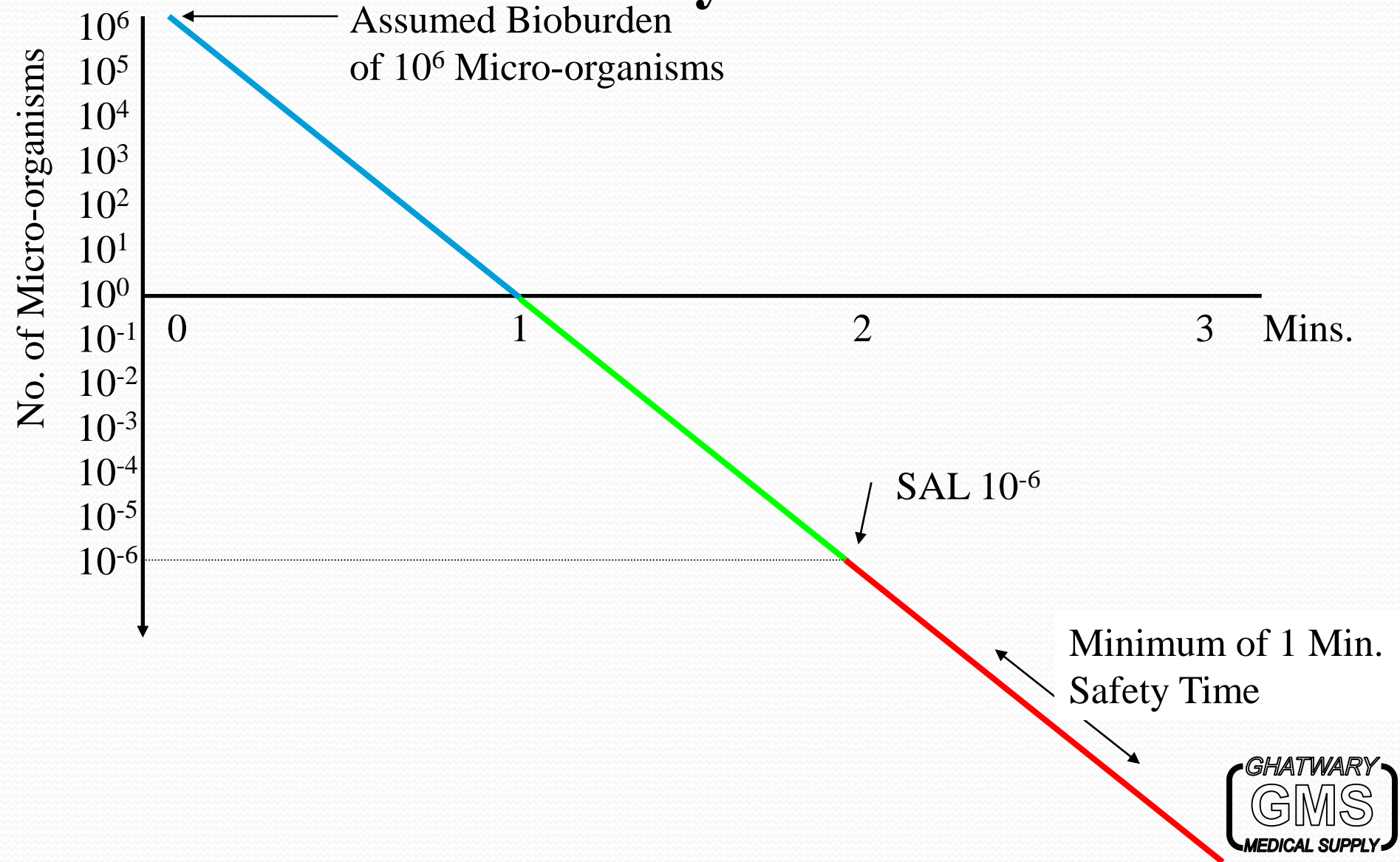
## First Minute of Cycle at 134°C



## Second Minute of Cycle at 134°C



# 'Safety Time'



# ISO11140 Classifications

Class 1: Process indicators

Class 2: Indicators for use in specific tests

Class 3: Single parameter indicators

Class 4: Multi-parameter indicators

Class 5: Integrating indicators

Class 6: Emulating indicators

# Class 4

## Class 4 – Multi Parameter Indicator

- Must react to 2 or more parameters
- For steam the tolerances are;

time +0%, - 25%

temperature +0, -2C

One calibration of Class 4 indicator is found around the world.

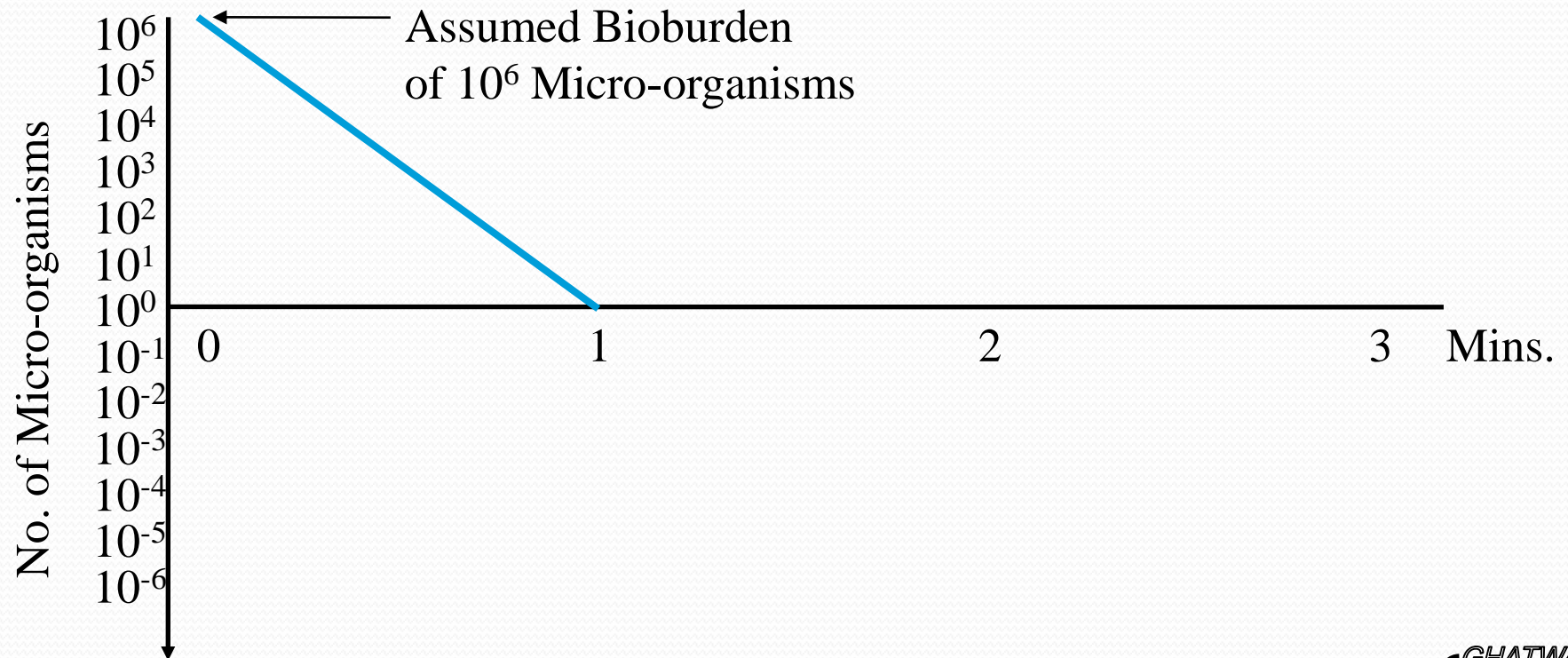
# ISO11140 - Class 5 - Integrating Indicators

- Also known as 'chemical biological' indicators
- Must react to all critical parameters of a given process
- Follow the death curve of a given spore population, e.g. B.

stearothermophilus in steam as per ISO 11138 part 3



## Class 5 indicators



# Class 6

A Class 6 indicator would prove that all parameters of a given process were present as per values stated on the indicator.

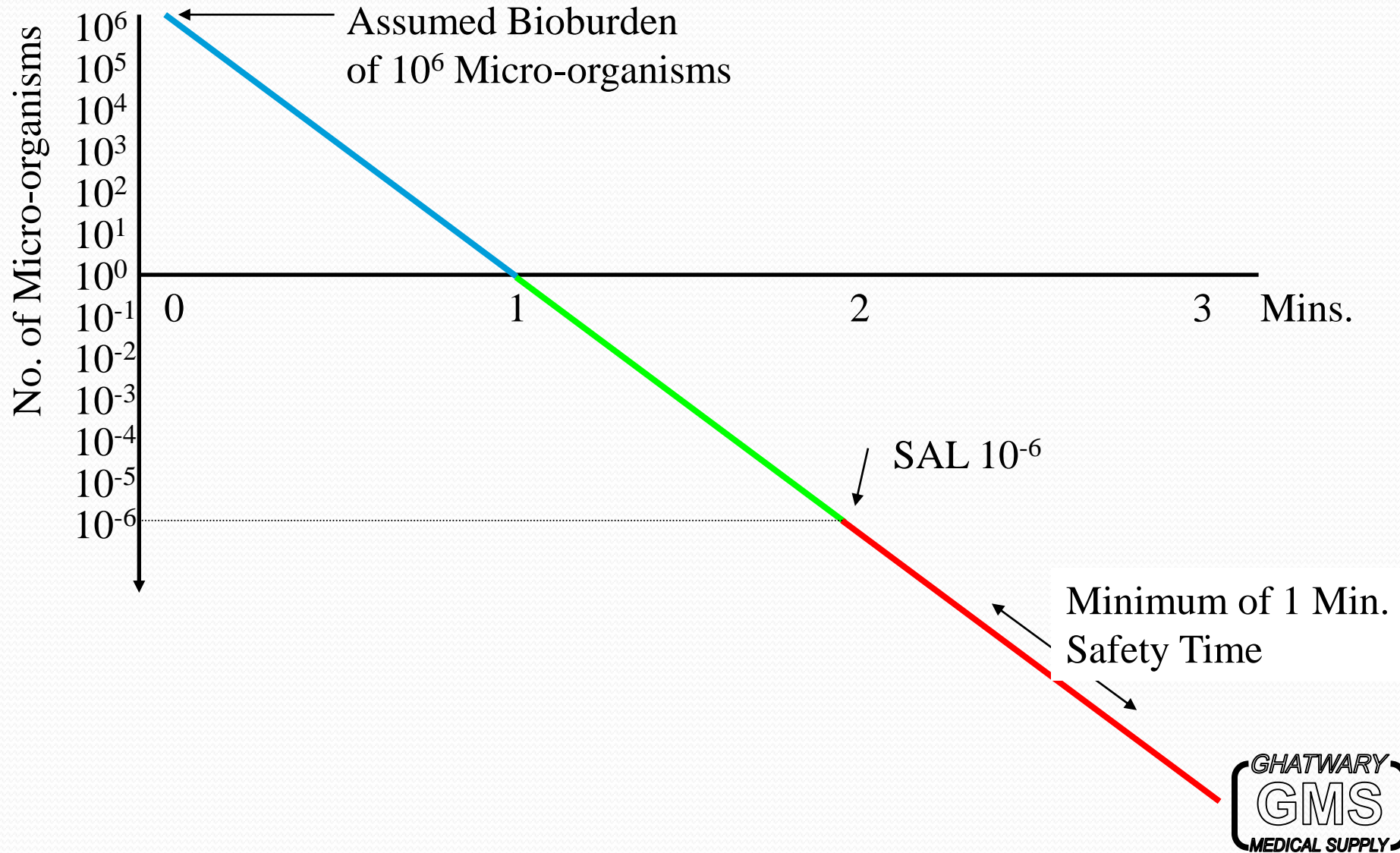
Monitoring all 3 critical parameters of Time, Temperature and Steam

Cycle emulating

E.g. 134 C for 3.5 , 4, 7, 9, or 18 min

121 C for 20 min

# Class 6



# Load Control Vs In pack monitoring

## Load control

- Assurance of the load.
- Physical evidence inspected and retained within the CSSD before the load is released
- Indicators are generally classified (class 2 )and therefore no method of determining specific characteristics.

## In pack monitoring

- Assurance of the pack or tray.
- Physical evidence is inspected by the end user and retained at point of use.
- Indicators classified according to their performance and characteristics.

## Other factors to consider

- Loading of the sterilizer:
- Overloading
- incorrect loading
- Packaging
- Packaging materials

# Surgical Safety Checklist



World Health  
Organization

Patient Safety  
A World Alliance for Patient Safety

## Before induction of anaesthesia

(with at least nurse and anaesthetist)

**Has the patient confirmed his/her identity, site, procedure, and consent?**

☐ Yes

**Is the site marked?**

☐ Yes

☐ Not applicable

**Is the anaesthesia machine and medication check complete?**

☐ Yes

**Is the pulse oximeter on the patient and functioning?**

☐ Yes

**Does the patient have a:**

**Known allergy?**

☐ No

☐ Yes

**Difficult airway or aspiration risk?**

☐ No

☐ Yes, and equipment/assistance available

**Risk of >500ml blood loss (7ml/kg in children)?**

☐ No

☐ Yes, and two IVs/central access and fluids planned

## Before skin incision

(with nurse, anaesthetist and surgeon)

☐ **Confirm all team members have introduced themselves by name and role.**

☐ **Confirm the patient's name, procedure, and where the incision will be made.**

**Has antibiotic prophylaxis been given within the last 60 minutes?**

☐ Yes

☐ Not applicable

**Anticipated Critical Events**

**To Surgeon:**

☐ What are the critical or non-routine steps?

☐ How long will the case take?

☐ What is the anticipated blood loss?

**To Anaesthetist:**

☐ Are there any patient-specific concerns?

**To Nursing Team:**

☐ Has sterility (including indicator results) been confirmed?

☐ Are there equipment issues or any concerns?

**Is essential imaging displayed?**

☐ Yes

☐ Not applicable

## Before patient leaves operating room

(with nurse, anaesthetist and surgeon)

**Nurse Verbally Confirms:**

☐ The name of the procedure

☐ Completion of instrument, sponge and needle counts

☐ Specimen labelling (read specimen labels aloud, including patient name)

☐ Whether there are any equipment problems to be addressed

**To Surgeon, Anaesthetist and Nurse:**

☐ What are the key concerns for recovery and management of this patient?

# Team Work



# Alignment







# Thank You