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When doctors and dentists clean their equipment after use, they also have to keep it clean for future use. As bacteria can be found just about everywhere, even in the operating room or dental office, doctors and dentists cannot run the risk of their equipment being tainted. Therefore, they keep their equipment tightly sealed in specially-made sterilization pouches when not in use. In a stable environment, clean equipment can be safe from being transmitters of diseases.

It was hard for medical practitioners to heal wounds and remedy diseases without sterilized tools. This was the case with battlefield surgeons back in the American Civil War, where at least one in four soldiers died from non-sterile surgical practices instead of taking a bullet during the battle. Of course, surgeons had no choice but to amputate limbs to save a soldier's life, but they also risk worsening the problem with unsterile equipment.

Basically, what the sterilization pouch does is keep medical tools in a clean environment. Doctors and dentists isolate every tool they use to reduce the chances of transmitting bacteria from one tool to another. This explains the rule that only one kind of medical tool should be placed per sterilization pouch. You can see some doctors and dentists keeping their tools sterile today since they want any medical operation to be a resounding success.

With proper sealing, a sterilization pouch can be very airtight, keeping airborne contaminants away from medical equipment. While most pouches are made out of paper materials that are permeable to gas, tight seals around the pouch keep air away from the equipment. However, they cannot be used for more than once as this may increase the risk of surgical infection. When containing the same tool, doctors and dentists use a fresh pouch.

A sterilization pouch can mean a successful and clean operation, whether in the operating room or the dentist's chair. Especially when any operation involves invasive surgical procedures, it is imperative that doctors and dentists keep their tools clean. As demonstrated by the non-sterile surgery of the Civil War, a non-sterile environment can kill lives more than it can save. The irony in surgery can be reversed if proper surgical practices are put to effective use.

The sterilization pouch is a useful invention in the field of medicine, providing sterile tools to save lives. Thanks to sterile medical practices, the quality of lives vastly improved over the years and more people get to live another day. The tools may do the lifesaving job, but they can only do so much when they are tainted with contaminants. It is for this reason that these pouches are a must.

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