

## Surgical Instrument Re-Processing

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Reference Number: F4814  
Date of Response: 18/08/2022

Further to your Freedom of Information Act request, please find the Trust's response, in **blue bold text** below:

### **Royal Devon's Eastern FOI Office Response**

1. Which supplier currently provides your surgical instrument decontamination chemicals for the Trust?  
**Dekomed, Serchem, Ecolab & Steris.**
2. With regards to surgical instrument decontamination in the Trust's Sterile Service Department (s), what percentage of instruments require rewashing?  
**Approx 1.96% of production.**
3. What is the cost of rewashing surgical instruments for the Trust in terms of time and resource?  
**Complete sets are returned for re-work. This requires manual agitation of dirty instruments, followed by a full mechanical re-wash. Labour cost equivalent to around 5-10 minutes per set, plus pro-rata cost of detergent dosage and utilities costs for percentage of cycle space taken up. Total time lost is estimated to be around 1.25 hours per set.**
4. How often does contamination of surgical instruments interfere with or prevent a surgery from taking place?  
**Negligible – typically around 0.02% of production.**