

# LINT AND STERILIZATION WRAP IN THE OR ENVIRONMENT

While efforts to control operating room lint are not new, the appearance of new products on the market underscores the need for vigilance by those who choose and use sterilization wrap.

The stakes are high. Sterile lint and fibers in the OR can serve as a transport vehicle for unwanted microorganisms. And they can reduce the ability of the surgical wound to resist infection.<sup>1</sup>

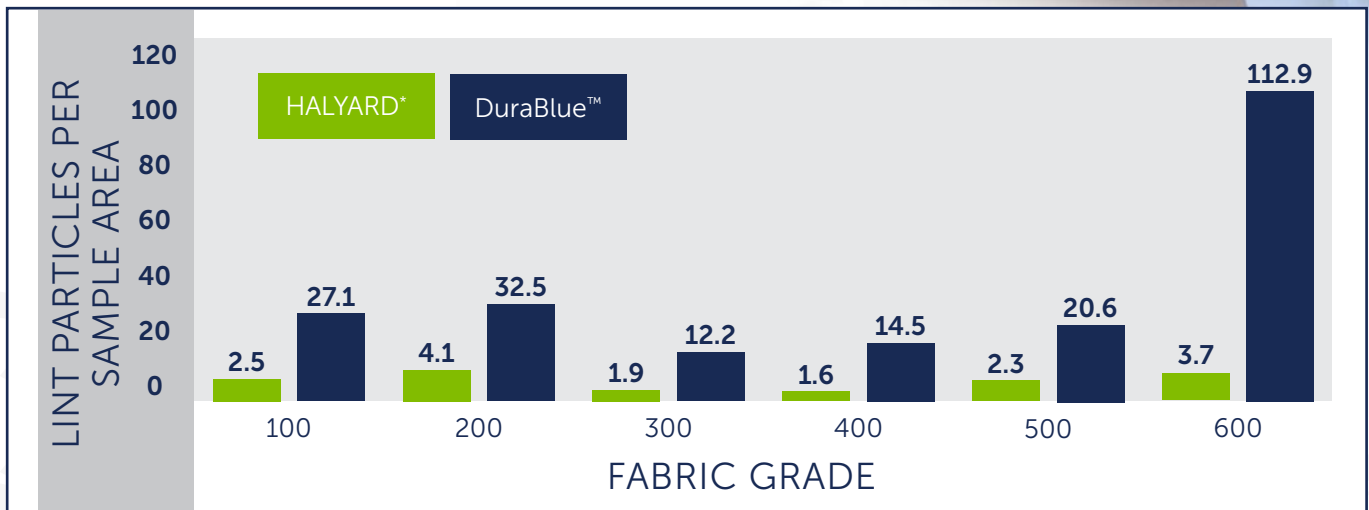
HALYARD\* Sterilization Wrap produces the lowest levels of lint in the industry. That feature, combined with clinical efficacy and value makes HALYARD\* Wrap the safe and secure choice for today's operating room.

## HALYARD\* ONE-STEP\* WRAP VS. CARDINAL DURABLUETM

In a physical properties test to assess linting, HALYARD\* ONE-STEP\* Sterilization Wrap and Cardinal DuraBlue™ were subjected to the Gelbo Lint Test, an industry recognized test methodology.



## GELBO LINT TEST RESULTS<sup>2</sup>



In every wrap grade, Cardinal DuraBlue™ generates **at least 6 times more lint** than HALYARD\* ONE-STEP\* Wrap, and in the heaviest grade (600), DuraBlue generates **30 times more lint** than HALYARD\* ONE-STEP\*.<sup>2</sup>

## IMPLICATIONS FOR PATIENT PROTECTION

The quality of post-operative patient healing can vary substantially depending on factors including the patient's overall health, degree of trauma sustained, level of microbial contamination and the presence of foreign bodies such as lint fibers in the wound.

### COMPLICATIONS FROM LINT CAN INCLUDE:

- Increased incidence/severity of infection
- Blood clots (thrombosis)
- Amplified inflammation
- Poor quality wound healing
- Granulomas
- Adhesions

Reducing linting in the OR reduces the risk of infection and improves patient outcomes. Low-linting sterilization wrap is an important tool in a lint-reduction strategy. Be aware of the sources of lint and the tendency of a product to produce lint before the product is purchased. Requesting and reviewing manufacturers' data on lint production can reinforce and verify selections.

## TESTING METHODOLOGY

The Gelbo Lint Test determines the relative propensity of fabrics to generate particles when pulled and twisted repeatedly by a particle generator to mimic typical movement.

In a controlled environment, a 9"x9" sample of fabric is clamped inside a Gelbo Dry Particle Generator. The sample is flexed one time per second for a period of five minutes. Particles generated during the test are counted using a laser particle counter. Results are expressed as the average number of lint particles generated greater than 10 microns in size.<sup>3</sup>



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<sup>1</sup> Truscott, Wava. Foreign Debris and Post-Surgical Issues. Surgical Products. Mar. 2013:24

<sup>2</sup> Results are expressed using median values. Cardinal DuraBlue™ Wrap, codes 100-600, were tested using 3 lots of product for each code, for a total of n = 74. Comparisons were made to comparable HALYARD\* One-Step\* Sterilization Wrap based on the 2009 Physical Properties Test conducted by an independent lab using 3 lot testing protocol.

<sup>3</sup> INDA Standard Test IST 160.1:1995, 1\*Resistance to Linting of Nonwoven Fabrics,\* 1995.

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