SteriBox by SteriDesign
A trial conducted at Cameron Memorial Community Hospital in 2015 to determine the use of SteriBox as a disinfectant for multi-use devices in a critical access setting

Objective: To determine the benefits of using the SteriBox by SteriDesign for the disinfection of multi-use electronic devices such as pagers, ID badges, cell phones, etc.

Overview: A critical access facility with an affiliated urgent care center was interested in testing the SteriBox equipment as a means to improve disinfection of pagers, cell phones, keys, television remotes and other small hand held devices that are used multiple times throughout the work day.

These devices are difficult to disinfect by traditional means. The hospital's current policy for cleaning/disinfection from patient use to staff and back to patient is to clean, then disinfect the device using an accelerated hydrogen peroxide (AHP) disinfectant wipe. Chemical disinfectants could damage the screens of hand held devices or cell phones and may cause the electronics on pagers, remotes and other devices to fail. The objective for this trial was to determine if the SteriBox would be a better alternative for disinfection.

Trial: Three devices were used for this unscientific trial: a cell phone, an IPod touch and a pager.

Step 1: An IPod touch and a cell phone were swabbed and tested on a blood agar plate without pre-cleaning the surface. These devices were then placed in the SteriBox to complete the 5-minute disinfection cycle. Upon completion of the cycle, each device was re-swabbed and tested on a blood agar plate. Visual inspection of these devices took place with no noted visible contamination. RESULT 1: The SteriBox, without any prior cleaning of the surface of the IPhone, almost completely eliminated all pathogens from this device. RESULT 2: The SteriBox, without any prior cleaning of the surface of the IPod touch, dramatically reduced the colony count. This demonstrated that even without any prior cleaning, the SteriBox was an effective tool to use for disinfection.

Step 2: After the pager is returned by a patient, the current protocol is to clean the pager with a chemically saturated AHP wipe and allowed to dry for the appropriate kill time. The pager was then visually inspected with no noted signs of visible contamination. The pager was swabbed and tested on a blood agar plate. The goal was to see if the current cleaning/disinfection process was effective. The pager was then placed in the SteriBox to complete the 5-minute disinfection cycle. Upon completion of the cycle, the pager was re-swabbed and tested on a blood agar plate to determine if we could achieve an even lower colony count. RESULT 1: There was very little growth found on the culture plate after our current process of using the AHP wipe to clean and disinfect the pager. RESULT 2: We were able to achieve complete disinfection, by taking the disinfection process a step further and placing the pager in the SteriBox for a 5-minute cycle. *This demonstrated that the SteriBox was an effective tool for disinfection.*

Reference: Cameron Memorial Community Hospital