



Talking Points – Setting the Standard with SGNA Practice Documents (For use with accrediting organization survey)

This script can be used with the PDF titled: "SGNA Practice Document Process"

Hints for your discussion:

- *Share SGNA resources*
- *Be prepared to speak to the content of the practice document and how your unit has chosen to follow it.*
- *Be confident. Surveyors may not be familiar with these documents; you can help to educate them. Facilities are obligated to follow their own policies and procedures. Accrediting bodies are trying to make sure facilities are following their processes.*

An example using a specific practice document might include:

(Unit name) follows the guidance provided in (insert guideline name here, example: Standards of Infection Prevention in Reprocessing of Flexible Gastrointestinal Endoscopes) for flexible endoscope reprocessing. Our nurses and techs have been trained to perform reprocessing consistent with these guidelines each time they reprocess an endoscope to help reduce infection risk and help ensure patient safety.

We follow the sequence and specifics outlined here for endoscope reprocessing because it has been produced by the Society of Gastroenterology Nurses and Associates (SGNA). This particular guideline is also consistent with the standard recommended by federal agencies such as the FDA and CDC.

SGNA follows the process outlined on this chart for practice document development and review. We employ this and other SGNA practice documents (if applicable) in our unit because they are:

- Developed by experienced GI nurses and subject-matter experts about procedures and processes they frequently perform and train others on. That means they reflect a depth of knowledge about the specialty and the role of nurses and associates that only SGNA can provide.
- Based on the highest level of evidence possible. They are subjected to a thorough review process and updated regularly to ensure they reflect the latest advances and accepted best practices, from an objective perspective.

The practice documents are housed in (location within your unit) for reference.