

**WAC 246-812-510 Definitions—Sterilization.** The definitions in this section apply throughout WAC 246-812-501 through 246-812-520, unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

(1) "**Communicable diseases**" means an illness caused by an infectious agent which can be transmitted from one person, animal, or object to another person by direct or indirect means including transmission via an intermediate host or vector, food, water or air.

(2) "**Decontamination**" means the use of physical or chemical means to remove, inactivate, or destroy bloodborne pathogens on a surface or item to the point where they are no longer capable of transmitting infectious particles and the surface or item is rendered safe for handling, use, or disposal.

(3) "**Direct care staff**" are the denturist staff who directly provide denturist care to patients.

(4) "**Sterilize**" means the use of a physical or chemical procedure to destroy all microbial life including highly resistant bacterial endospores.

[Statutory Authority: Chapter 18.30 RCW and 2013 c 171. WSR 14-24-033, § 246-812-510, filed 11/24/14, effective 12/25/14. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.30.070(3). Readopted by WSR 98-20-068, § 246-812-510, filed 10/2/98, effective 11/2/98; WSR 95-22-062, § 246-812-510, filed 10/30/95, effective 11/30/95.]