QUALITY ASSESSMENT FORM – Ensuring Decontamination

Study ID: Extractor:

1. Description of procedure
   i). Full description of measured procedural specifications and type of apparatus used (where appropriate)
   ii). Some procedural specifications measured.
   iii). Unclear as to whether specifications were measured or assumed

2. Description of outcome
   i). Adequate controls used to demonstrate the proportion of indicator microorganisms killed by the decontamination procedure
   ii). No controls but a measurement of the proportion of microorganisms killed
   iii). Simple reporting of presence or absence of microorganisms following decontamination

3. Study design
   i). Studies including positive controls for microorganism growth/detection
   ii). Studies including internal controls for microorganism survival (such as a comparative time-course)
   iii). Observations with no method for standardising results

4. Number of observations
   i). >10 repeated observations of a single result (eg for each time point)
   ii). Between 2 and 9 repeated observations of a single result
   iii). One observation per result

An assessment of study quality may be made by adding the score from parts 1-4:

Overall score =
iv-vi: high 1  vii-ix: medium 2  >ix: low 3  reliability  quality 1 2 3

Other aspects
What was the source of the microorganisms tested?
UNCLEAR  LAB STRAIN  CLINICAL ISOLATE  OTHER

Any deficiencies in study design?