

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES
DIVISION OF COMPARATIVE MEDICINE
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA

SOP#: 1121.2

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TITLE: Amsco® Eagle Autoclave Model #3041
SCOPE: Research and Animal Care Personnel
RESPONSIBILITY: Facility Manager, Surgical Core Manager, Professional and Administrative Staff
PURPOSE: To Outline the Proper Procedures for Use and Maintenance of an Amsco® Eagle Autoclave Model #3041

I. PURPOSE

1. This procedure outlines the use and maintenance of the model #3041 Amsco® Eagle autoclave unit used to sterilize surgical instruments, solutions, food, water, bedding, and equipment used for research and husbandry, located in rooms G041 and G012 VA.

II. RESPONSIBILITY

1. It is the responsibility of the Facility Manager in conjunction with the Surgical Core Manager to ensure that equipment is appropriately cleaned, maintained in good working order, and available for research personnel as requested.
2. It is the responsibility of the veterinary professional, administrative, and managerial staff to ensure that all research and technical staff using this equipment are adequately trained and experienced.

III. EQUIPMENT USE

Note: Operator should be familiar with **SOPs #1002 Autoclave Sterilization, #1006 Sterilization, and #1007 Verify Indicators** before operating this unit.

1. Power supply is located in G012 on the wall to the right of the unit. This is **kept in the ON** position unless the autoclave is in need of repair.
2. **Open red steam valve** located at the top middle of autoclave.
3. **Open blue water valve** located at top right of autoclave.
4. **Place items to be autoclaved into chamber.** Items should not be tightly stacked and arranged to facilitate the circulation and penetration of steam.
5. **Close door firmly and turn handle clockwise to tighten.**

6. To **start cycle**, press a numbered button at the right of the chamber. Press once to review preset times and temperatures. Press twice to start cycle.
7. The appropriate cycles for the corresponding loads are listed below:
 - a. Cycle 1: 65 min. @ 250⁰, dry- 25 min, soiled cages/ bedding.
 - b. Cycle 2: 30 min. @ 250⁰, dry- 15 min, clean cages & instruments.
 - c. Cycle 3: 30 min. @ 250⁰, dry- 25 min, double wrapped packs.
 - d. Cycle 4: 20 min. @ 250⁰, dry- 0 min, liquids, water bottles.
8. A beep will sound when the cycle is completed.
9. After the pressure in the chamber reaches zero the door can be opened by turning the handle counterclockwise and the load carefully removed. Vent the door by opening 1 inch for 10 minutes before removing liquids.

Caution: Autoclave unit and contents may be hot, wear appropriate protective equipment.

10. After the last load for the day is finished, turn off both the water valve and the steam valve.

IV. MAINTENANCE

1. Weekly remove the chamber drain strainer to clean out sediment and spilled materials; wash the inside of the sterilizing chamber using a mild detergent solution.
2. Keep outside of unit clean by using a stainless steel cleaner.
3. Autoclave units are tested and verified as to proper function in accordance with **SOP #1002**, this verification is recorded on the **Autoclave Sterilization Record**, and records are maintained in accordance with **SOP #010**.
4. Routine maintenance and non-routine service is performed by an authorized subcontractor and is documented in writing.
5. Equipment that functions without deficiency, receives regular preventative maintenance, and successfully passes verifications, is considered certified.

V. REFERENCES

Refer to manufacturer's instructions for additional information.

Approved:

Date: