

**STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES**  
**DIVISION OF COMPARATIVE MEDICINE**  
**UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA**

SOP#: 1134.1

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Page 1 of 3

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**TITLE:** Amsco® Eagle SG-120 Autoclave Model #2021  
**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 SG-120 Autoclave Model #2021

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**I. PURPOSE**

1. This procedure outlines the use and maintenance of the model #2021 Amsco® Eagle SG-120 autoclave unit used to sterilize surgical instruments, solutions, food, water, bedding, equipment used for research and husbandry, and is located in Room 130 of the ACH research facility.

**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. PROCEDURES**

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

1. Open front cabinet panel.
2. Open steam supply (red valve) one quarter turn counterclockwise to the **ON** position.
3. Turn on switch marked **Main Power** located on the control panel.
4. Close front cabinet panel, control panel screen should be lit. Step on foot pedal to lower vertical chamber door.

5. Steris screen will appear, choose main menu, and then select appropriate cycle option(s).
6. Allow unit to warm up until jacket temperature = 115<sup>0</sup>C,
7. Check for sufficient printer paper, if red ink is showing, reload with new roll.
8. Place items to be autoclaved into chamber. Items should not be tightly stacked and should be arranged to facilitate the circulation and penetration of steam. Make sure shelves have been pushed back into original position after loading.
9. Close door using foot pedal.
10. Press "**Cycle Select**" on display screen #1.
11. Push appropriate button for sterilization. **Liquids** for sterilizing liquids in bottles or **Gravity** for sterilizing all other materials. The unit is now operating and will heat to the temperature and time selected developing a pressure appropriate to time/temperature exposures. If cycle parameters on screen are inappropriate, use "previous" button to make correct choice.
12. Examples of times and temperatures for the applications listed:
  - a. Rodent caging with bedding- sterilize 70 minutes at 250<sup>0</sup>, dry 10 min.
  - b. Water bottles (empty)- sterilize 70 minutes at 250<sup>0</sup>, dry 10 min.
  - c. Microisolator lids- sterilize 50 minutes at 250<sup>0</sup>, dry 10 min.
  - d. Transport boxes- sterilize 20 minutes at 250<sup>0</sup>, dry 10 min.
  - e. Surgical instruments- sterilize 30 minutes at 250<sup>0</sup>, dry 10 min.
  - f. Gowns, gauze- sterilize 30 minutes at 250<sup>0</sup>, dry 10 min.
  - g. Biohazard caging- sterilize 70 minutes at 250<sup>0</sup>, dry 10 min.
13. A beeper will sound and display will read "Phase: Complete" when the cycle is complete indicating the load is finished. The beeper will continue to sound until the door is opened.
14. After the pressure in the chamber reaches zero the door can be opened by stepping on the foot pedal, and the load carefully removed.

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

15. After the last load for the day is finished, turn off **Main Power** switch and close the red steam valve situated above the chamber.

#### **IV. MAINTENANCE**

1. Periodically inspect and clean chamber if materials spill (e.g. food, bedding)
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 monthly verifications, is considered certified.

## **V. REFERENCES**

1. Refer to manufacturer's instructions for additional information.

**Approved:**

**Date:**