

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES
DIVISION OF COMPARATIVE MEDICINE
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA

SOP#: 1148

Date Issued: 1/09

Date Revised: New

Page 1 of 2

TITLE: Consolidated Sterilizer® Autoclave Model SR-24CMCV
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 Consolidated Sterilizer® Autoclave Model SR-24CMCV

I. PURPOSE

1. This procedure outlines the use and maintenance of the model SR-24CMCV Consolidated Sterilizer autoclave unit used to sterilize/decontaminate equipment & supplies used for research and husbandry at the Interdisciplinary Research Building BSL-1 & BSL-2 Animal and Insectory 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. EQUIPMENT USE

Note: Operator should be familiar with the Consolidated Sterilizer® Autoclave Model SR-24CMC **operation manual**, and **SOPs #1002 Monitoring Autoclave Sterilization, #1006 Autoclave Sterilization, and #1007 Verify Indicators** before operating this unit.

1. Daily, or with each load if run less frequently than daily,
 - a. Check printer tape- if tape runs out during a cycle, the cycle will be halted.
 - b. Clean door gasket with damp cloth.
 - c. Clean chamber sterilizer.
 - d. Conduct Daily Air Removal test (DART).
2. Place items to be autoclaved into chamber. Items should not be tightly stacked and arranged to facilitate the circulation and penetration of steam.
3. Close door firmly ensuring door is properly sealed and turn handle clockwise to tighten.

4. Caging and equipment is autoclaved using a pre-vacuum, dry cycle setting of 121⁰C/250⁰F for 30 minutes, with a 5 to 7 minute pressure release and cool down period.
5. A buzzer will sound when the cycle is complete indicating the load is finished.
6. After the pressure in the chamber reaches zero the door can be opened by turning the handle counterclockwise and the load carefully removed.

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

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** and this verification is recorded on the **Autoclave Sterilization Record** and 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 at the prescribed intervals as per SOPs is considered certified.

V. REFERENCES

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

Approved:

Date: