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SAFETY AT WORK INSTRUCTIONS

WORK WITH AUTOCLAVE

<u>General</u>: The autoclave is a convenient and multipurpose tool for the disinfection and sterilization of contaminant waste. The autoclave works on high pressure steam (same as a pressure cooker) at a temperature of 132°C or 121°C there is risk of infection, burns and explosion.

- 1. Operation shall be according to the operating instructions of the autoclave manufacturer
- 2. Work shall be performed only with an autoclave that was inspected by a pressure devices inspector, passed successfully the inspection and the inspection is valid. Do not work with an autoclave whose inspection validity expired or that is not in good working order.
- 3. Select the sterilization program according to the load type
- **4.** When preparing the load, pay attention to plastic tools and bags likely to melt at high temperatures and stick to other tools.
- 5. Before loading the autoclave ensure the drain filter is not blocked
- 6. Spread the load evenly in order to ensure effective steam penetration
- **7.** It is recommended to use stainless steel containers since they are good heat conductors. Plastic heat resistant containers must be shallow (not deep).
- 8. Before starting the autoclave, ensure the door is properly closed.
- 9. Before opening the autoclave door, ensure the pressure is "0"
- **10.** Due to heat and steam danger, the autoclave door must be opened in steps on completion of the sterilization process. First open to a narrow crack in order to release steam. It is recommended to leave the place for 10 minutes while the steam coming out of the autoclave clears. Then open the door and unload.
- **11.** When unloading the autoclave use long, heat resistant gloves.
- **12.** When handling bottles with hot liquids wear a rubber apron
- **13.** Do not stop the sterilization before the preset time ended. In the event of a stoppage, intentional or due to malfunctioning, restart the sterilization.
- **14.** Open the door only after the pressure gauge (chamber) indicates zero and the thermometer shows not more than 80°C.
- **15.** Safe opening of the autoclave door requires the worker to stand aside of the door and not in front of the door
- 16. Operation
 - ✓ When sterilizing containers with liquids, place the sensor in a container of the same size with water.
 - ✓ It is mandatory to place containers with agar on a tray. Agar overflow will destroy the device

 \checkmark Once a week, when the autoclave is switched off, empty the water from the generator.

- 17. Example of operation program: verify for each autoclave and validate every year:
 - ✓ Unwrapped items 121°C, sterilization 15'
 - ✓ Wrapped items 121°C, sterilization 20'
 - ✓ Liquids 121°C, sterilization 15'

DO NOTHING THAT MIGHT ENDANGER YOU OR OTHER PERSONS

IN EMERGENCY, CALL 2222 FROM ANY INTERNAL EXTENSION