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Autoclave Operation and Safety

MBI Specific Instructions for Steris Gravity Displacement Autoclaves:

- Autoclave rooms at the MBI are locked 24/7; contact MBI Administration Office to apply for access to the units.
- There are 6 pre-set, password-protected programs for these units. The programs are described on the card attached to the front panel of the autoclave.
- Using the foot pedal near floor on the right side of unit, open the autoclave door.
- Slide shelf halfway out of the chamber and place autoclave pan(s) containing items to be sterilized on shelf and slide shelf back into chamber. **Do not place items directly on racks.** Make certain that red biohazardous bags are as far back in the unit as possible.
- Using the foot pedal near floor on the right side of unit, close the autoclave door.
- On the Main Menu screen, press 'Select Cycle'. Upon selecting a number (1-6), the cycle parameters are displayed, including sterilization and drying times. To select a different cycle, press 'Previous' to take you back to the cycle selection screen.
- Press 'Start Cycle' to seal chamber and begin sterilization. This is an ACTIVE seal unit, meaning that the door gasket will be pushed out against the door interior by steam/air to create the sterilization chamber.
- Screen timer will indicate how long the total run will be.
- Log Book must be filled out for each autoclave run.
- Please return promptly to retrieve your items.
- At the end of the cycle, the buzzer will sound. Make certain chamber pressure is at zero PSI. To retrieve sterilized items, open the autoclave door using the foot pedal. Allow the steam to escape (2-3secs) before reaching in to retrieve your items. Wear heat-protective (autoclave) gloves and avoiding touching hot metal parts.