



Steri-Pak LF Bowie-Dick Test Pack

REF BD 111

Directions For Use

INDICATIONS FOR USE

The Steri-Pak LF Bowie-Dick Test Pack is designed for daily monitoring of pre-vacuum steam sterilizers operating at 270° F (132° C) for 3.5 minutes to detect the presence of residual air. Residual air can defeat pre-vacuum steam sterilization. The Test Pack also functions in pre-vacuum steam sterilizers that list the Bowie-Dick test at 4 minutes.

COLOR CHANGE

The indicator sheet will change from blue to black when exposed to steam sterilization cycle with acceptable vacuum cycles.

CRITICAL PARAMETERS

Steam sterilization cycle functioning at 132° C for 3.5 minutes

INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE

1. The Bowie-Dick test is conducted each day in an empty sterilizer prior to processing any loads.
2. The sterilizer should be fully heated to operating temperature before running the Bowie-Dick test even if a short "warm-up cycle" is performed before running the test.
3. Place test pack flat on the bottom rack near the drain, the coolest place of the empty sterilizer. The Test Pack should read "THIS SIDE UP" when placed correctly.
4. Run a pre-vacuum steam sterilization cycle as specified by the sterilizer manufacturer. The test should be run for 3.5 at 270° F (132° C). The cycle time must never exceed 4 minutes. A short dry time of 2 to 5 minutes will not affect the test.
5. Remove the test pack from the sterilizer and pull the zipper tab across the front of the box to open it.
6. Remove the indicator sheet from the middle of the test pack. The indicator sheet is easy to find. Look for a black section printed on two edges.
7. If the indicator sheet is still warm upon removal from the pack, *DO NOT PLACE IT ON A COLD SURFACE*. The indicator may return to its original color, if a cold surface is encountered prior to indicator equilibration. Place the warm indicator sheet on a room temperature item, such as a towel, to slowly cool and equilibrate.
8. Examine the indicator sheet for any change or variation in color. If no significant amount of residual air is present, the indicator sheet will show a uniform black color change. If the indicator sheet shows a blue color in the center, this indicates the presence of residual air.
9. Date the indicator sheet, identify the sterilizer, and save the test sheet for file records. Report any residual air indications to the department supervisor.

INTERPRETATION OF INDICATOR SHEET

A sterilizer that is functioning normally should demonstrate a uniform black color on the indicator sheet throughout the entire pattern. When a significant amount of residual air is present, the chemical indicator sheet typically has a blue area in the center. If evidence of residual air is found, it is recommended that the test be repeated to assure that the sterilizer was warmed-up and no anomalies were present in the single test cycle.

SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

CAUTION: the test pack will be hot and should be opened carefully to avoid thermal injury.

STORAGE

Store the Bowie-Dick Test Pack at 50° - 100° F (10° - 38° C) 10-70 % R.H. Store exposed indicator sheets away from light sources to retain the original color change results.

EXPIRY DATE

The expiry date is printed on the product packaging.

LOT NUMBER

A unique identification code, LOT, is printed on each indicator and packaging labels.

INTERFERING SUBSTANCES OR CONDITIONS

There are NO KNOWN INTERFERING SUBSTANCES OR CONDITIONS that could affect the intended use of the indicator or adversely affect the indicator performance.

RELEASE OF TOXIC SUBSTANCES

The indicator releases NO KNOWN TOXIC SUBSTANCES in sufficient quantities to cause either a health hazard, or a hazard to the intended properties of the product being sterilized before, during or after the sterilization process.

SteriTec Products Mfg. Co., Inc.
74 Inverness Drive East
Englewood, CO 80112
303-660-4201 FAX 303-660-4213