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## WASHER/DISINFECTORS FOR HOSPITAL UTENSILS

**STANDARDS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA***Incorporated by Royal Charter*

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**AUSTRALIAN STANDARD**

# **WASHER/DISINFECTORS FOR HOSPITAL UTENSILS**

**AS 2945—1987**

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## PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Association's Committee on Sterilizing Equipment. The preparation of this Standard was prompted by the need for a nationally accepted specification covering washer/disinfectors for hospital utensils, which will enable purchasers of hospital equipment to specify equipment which will perform effectively and help to reduce the incidence of infection which is transmitted by hospital utensils.

Other Australian Standards dealing with sterilizing and sanitizing are as follows:

- AS 1410 Pre-vacuum Pressure Steam Sterilizers (With Mechanical Air Removal).
- AS 1714 Ethylene Oxide Sterilizers (Using Ethylene Oxide/Dichlorodifluoromethane 12%/88% m/m Sterilizing Gas Mixture).
- AS 1862 Aeration Cabinets (For Use with Ethylene Oxide Sterilizers).
- AS 2182 Portable Electrically Heated Steam Sterilizers (Downward Displacement Pressure Steam Type).
- AS 2192 Horizontal Sterilizers (Downward Displacement Pressure Steam Type).
- AS 2437 Flusher/Sanitizers for Bed Pans and Urine Bottles.
- AS 2487 Dry Heat Sterilizers (Hot Air Type).
- AS 2514 Drying Cabinets for Medical Equipment.
- AS 2711 Washer/Disinfectors for Respiratory Apparatus.
- AS 2773 Ultrasonic Cleaners for Hospital Use.
- AS 2774 Drying Cabinets for Respiratory Apparatus.

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# STANDARDS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

## Australian Standard

### WASHER/DISINFECTORS FOR HOSPITAL UTENSILS

#### SECTION 1. SCOPE AND GENERAL

**1.1 SCOPE.** This Standard specifies requirements for washer/disinfectors for some types of surgical instruments and some types of hospital utensils such as bowls, kidney dishes, tooth mugs, and sucker bottles.

**NOTES:**

1. Washer/disinfectors for hospital utensils are not designed to wash and disinfect mechanical components, electrical components, bedpans, urinals, endotracheal tubes, and anaesthetic and other tubing.
2. Washer/disinfectors for hospital utensils are not designed to dry their loads. For the drying of medical equipment, see AS 2514.
3. Guidance on information to be supplied with enquiries and orders is given in Appendix A.

**1.2 INNOVATION.** It is not intended that the Standard impose unnecessary restrictions on the use of new or unusual materials or methods.

**1.3 REFERENCED DOCUMENTS.** The following Standards are referred to in this Standard:

AS 1192 Electroplated Coatings—Nickel and Chromium.

- AS 1259 Sound Level Meters.  
 AS 1271 Valves, Water Gauges and Other Fittings for Boilers and Unfired Pressure Vessels.  
 AS 1449 Wrought Alloy Steels—Stainless and Heat-resisting Steel Plate, Sheet and Strip.  
 AS 1722 Pipe Threads of Whitworth Form Part 1—Sealing Pipe Threads.  
 AS 2514 Drying Cabinets for Medical Equipment.  
 AS 3100 Approval and Test Specification for Definitions and General Requirements for Electrical Materials and Equipment.  
 AS 3142 Approval and Test Specification—Electric Water Heaters.

**1.4 DEFINITIONS.** For the purpose of this Standard, the definitions below apply.

**1.4.1 Disinfect**—to remove or destroy potentially pathogenic micro-organisms other than bacterial spores.

**1.4.2 Shall and should**—‘shall’ is taken to be mandatory, ‘should’ is taken to be advisory.

#### SECTION 2. MATERIALS

**2.1 GENERAL.** The materials and equipment shall be suitable for continuous use under every intended operating condition.

Components subjected to heat shall be able to withstand occasional operation at a temperature of 100 °C.

Any stainless steel sheet shall be not less than 0.9 mm thick; however, where formed or ribbed stainless steel sheet is used for chamber surfaces, it shall be not less than 0.5 mm thick.

**2.2 FRAMEWORK.** Where a fixed frame is provided, the framework shall be of stainless steel or hot-dip galvanized carbon steel.

Adjustable support brackets, adjustable feet, and levelling bolts which are fitted to the framework shall be of stainless steel.

**2.3 EXTERNAL PANELS.** Visible external panels shall be of stainless steel having a finish of not less than finish No 3 as specified by AS 1449 (Appendix C in the 1980 edition).

Where external panels are built-in or otherwise not visible, they shall be of non-corrodible material which is impervious to moisture.

**2.4 DOORS, CHAMBERS, AND SUPPORT RACKS.** Doors, chambers, and support racks shall be of stainless steel having corrosion-resistance properties not less than that of Grade AS 1449/302; however, viewing panels of glass may be provided.

**2.5 GASKETS.** Under operating conditions, gaskets shall not release toxic products.

**2.6 NOZZLES.** Hot and cold water nozzles shall be of stainless steel, copper-nickel alloy, brass, or plastics. Nozzles of brass shall be chromium-plated in compliance with Service Condition 3 of AS 1192.

**2.7 PIPEWORK AND PIPE FITTINGS.** Pipe-work and pipe fittings shall be of stainless steel, copper, or synthetic material (including plastics).

**2.8 VALVES.** Valves shall be of non-ferrous metal, stainless steel, or suitable plastics material. Non-ferrous metallic valves shall comply with AS 1271.

**2.9 PUMPS.** Pumps shall be of corrosion-resistant materials.