

Australian Standard™

**Sterilizers—Steam—
Downward-displacement**

This Australian Standard was prepared by Committee ME-003, Sterilizing Equipment. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 21 June 2002 and published on 25 July 2002.

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Australian Dental Industry Association
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Australian Standard™

**Sterilizers—Steam—
Downward-displacement**

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PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Standards Australia Committee ME-003, Sterilizing Equipment, to supersede AS 2192—1991.

The objective of this Standard is to provide users with equipment that will perform safely as intended.

Technical changes from the previous edition include the following:

- (a) Clause 1.4 includes some definitions.
- (b) Clause 2.8 includes amended requirements for wheels of carriages.
- (c) Clause 3.6 amends the requirements for surface finish.
- (d) Clause 3.18 includes requirements to prohibit the introduction of superheated steam and amendments to requirements for steam separation.
- (e) Clause 3.23.1 for temperature indicators has been amended.
- (f) Clause 3.25.2 includes amended requirements for colours of stage indicators.
- (g) Section 6 on testing has been amended.
- (h) Paragraphs H1 and H2, which prescribe standard fabric and instrument test packs, have been amended.
- (I) Requirements and advice regarding the sterilization of fluids are included in Clauses 3.12.1, 3.24.3, Table 4 and Appendix G.

The terms 'normative' and 'informative' have been used in this Standard to define the application of the appendix to which they apply. A 'normative' appendix is an integral part of a Standard, whereas an 'informative' appendix is only for information and guidance.

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STANDARDS AUSTRALIA

Australian Standard Sterilizers—Steam— Downward-displacement

SECTION 1 SCOPE AND GENERAL

1.1 SCOPE

This Standard specifies requirements for horizontal downward-displacement steam sterilizers (including jacketed types and non-jacketed types) that are intended for use in hospitals and other non-industrial applications.

NOTES:

- 1 Downward-displacement-type steam sterilizers should not be used to sterilize any instrument or equipment that is lumened or blind lumened, as specified in AS 4187 (Clause 4.2.2 in the 2002 edition).
- 2 Steam sterilizers require an independently generated saturated steam supply that has a dryness value of not less than 0.97 and an adequate steam quality. Information on steam quality is provided by HTM 2031.
- 3 Steam sterilizers should not be installed in any location where flammable anaesthetics or volatile liquids may be used, unless the location and the sterilizer comply with the relevant requirements of AS 1169, AS 2380.2 and AS 2380.7.
- 4 Guidance on information that should be supplied with enquiries and orders is given in Appendix A.
- 5 Information on quality of water is given in Appendix B.
- 6 Information on steam supplies is given in Appendix C.
- 7 Standards for machines that wash, sterilize or dry medical equipment in health care facilities are listed in Appendix D.

1.2 INNOVATION

Any use of new or unusual materials or methods to achieve the intent of this Standard is encouraged. Manufacturers employing innovative materials or methods shall show documented third-party proof that the innovation is not inferior to that of the intent of this Standard.

1.3 REFERENCED DOCUMENTS

The documents referred to in this Standard are listed in Appendix E.

1.4 DEFINITIONS

For the purpose of this Standard, the definitions in AS 4187 and those below apply:

1.4.1 Air removal

Removal of air from the sterilizer chamber and sterilizer load, sufficient to facilitate steam penetration.

1.4.2 Autoclave

Colloquial term for steam-under-pressure sterilizer.