



Drying cabinets for reusable medical devices



AS 5330:2019

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Preface

This Standard was prepared by the Standards Australia Committee HE-023, Processing of Medical and Surgical Instruments, to supersede AS 2514—1999, *Drying cabinets for medical equipment*, and AS 2774—1985, *Drying cabinets for respiratory apparatus*.

Currently there are no equivalent International Standards containing specifications for drying cabinets for medical devices or medical equipment and no equivalent European Norms or International Standards containing specifications for standalone equipment used for the drying of reusable medical devices. The two aged Australian Standards now being superseded have been important in providing guidance to the manufacturing industry. They are now being incorporated into one combined document.

The objective of this Standard is to provide manufacturers of drying cabinets intended for use in drying reusable medical devices, including respiratory equipment, with up to date specifications for the construction and performance of this equipment. This Standard aims to ensure that manufactured drying cabinets meet community and regulatory expectations for maintaining the safety and quality of reusable medical devices during the drying step in the reprocessing cycle.

The term “informative” has been used in this Standard to define the application of the appendix to which it applies. An “informative” appendix is only for information and guidance.

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Section 1 Scope and general

1.1 Scope

This Standard specifies requirements for drying cabinets intended for use in hospitals and other facilities for the drying of reusable medical devices (RMDs) and medical equipment.

This Standard does not specify requirements for drying cabinets for thermolabile flexible endoscopes (refer to EN 16442, *Controlled environment storage cabinet for processed thermolabile endoscopes*).

NOTE 1 Where the drying cabinet is to be used for the drying of thermolabile materials or for delicate RMDs and medical equipment liable to be damaged by excessive heat, it may be necessary to select electrical heating with an inherently faster response to an over-temperature controller, rather than a steam or hot-water-heated drying cabinet, which may not cool sufficiently quickly to avoid damaging such materials or equipment.

NOTE 2 Guidance on information to be supplied with enquiries and orders is given in [Appendix A](#).

1.2 Innovation

This Standard does not prevent the use of materials, methods of assembly, procedures and the like, that do not match with the specific requirements of this Standard, or are not mentioned in it, provided the minimum dimensional and performance requirements specified in this Standard are met.

1.3 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document.

NOTE Documents referenced for informative purposes are listed in the Bibliography.

AS 1271, *Safety valves, other valves, liquid level gauges, and other fittings for boilers and unfired pressure vessels*

AS 1324.1, *Air filters for use in air conditioning and general ventilation, Part 1: Application, performance and construction*

AS 4041, *Pressure piping*

AS/NZS 3100, *Approval and test specification — General requirements for electrical equipment*

IEC 61326-1, *Electrical equipment for measurement, control and laboratory use — EMC requirements — Part 1: General requirements*

1.4 General

The materials used in the construction of the drying cabinet shall be suitable for continuous use under the full range of operating conditions.

Components subjected to heat shall be able to operate at a temperature of 100 °C.

NOTE During material selection, consideration should be given to the compatibility of construction materials in contact with each other e.g. two different materials may cause unintended galvanic corrosion.

1.5 Framework

Where a fixed frame is provided it shall be constructed of stainless steel or other suitable material that is corrosion resistant.