

Healthmark's Sterigard® Tip Protectors-

Validation for Compatibility with Steam Sterilization

10001-10010

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Objective: To validate the efficacy of Healthmark's Sterigard® Tip Protectors with steam sterilization.

Materials:

Steam Sterilizer

Surgical Instruments

Biological Indicators

Sterigard® Tip Protectors

Steriking® Peel Pouches

Chemical indicators

Procedure:

- Surgical instruments: Tweezers, iris scissors, mosquito clamp, osteotome, kochers, male scissors were fitted with the appropriate sized Sterigard® tip protectors.
- A biological indicator (BI) strip was inserted in between the instrument tips and the tip protectors. The BI contained *Geobacillus stearothermophilus* spores.
- The instruments were placed in Steriking® sterilization pouches with a Class 5 chemical integrator (CI).
- The sterilization pouches were placed in the sterilizer.
- A BI challenge pack with a Class-5 CI was also placed in the sterilizer.
- The sterilization cycle parameters were as follows:
 - Cycle Type: Pre-vacuum
 - Exposure time: 4 mins
 - Exposure temperature: 133°C
 - Dry time: 20 mins
- At the end of the sterilization cycle, the CI's were checked to confirm that sterilization conditions were met.
- BI strips were incubated for 24 hours and then tested for viability of microorganisms. A positive control was also incubated.

Results: All BI tests from the Sterigard® tipped instruments were negative for growth. The positive control was positive for grow.

Conclusion: Healthmark's Sterigard® Tip Protectors are permeable to steam, allowing proper sterilization of instrument tips.