

BIOHAZARD



DESIGNATED AUTOCLAVE FOR BIOHAZARDOUS WASTE

Under the UK Autoclave Verification Program, this autoclave is designated to be used for decontamination of biological and potentially infectious waste. Sterilization of glassware and liquids may also be done in this particular autoclave. Biological Indicator Test Packs should be used for verification on a monthly basis.

- ◆ Never leave biohazardous waste unattended. Users must maintain control of biohazardous waste until autoclave cycle begins.
- ◆ Only orange or clear autoclave bags are to be used for research waste. Do not use red bags as autoclave bags. Red bags are designated for regulated medical waste only.
- ◆ Never put sealed containers, solvents, volatile or corrosive chemicals, or radioactive materials in the autoclave.
- ◆ Place waste in a leak proof container for transport to the autoclave facility. Only approved autoclave trays capable of withstanding the autoclave cycle conditions may be placed inside the autoclave.
- ◆ To ensure adequate steam penetration, bags should be filled only half full and vented by loosely securing the top of the bag. If waste contents are dry, a small quantity of water should be carefully added to the bag to assist in generation of steam.
- ◆ Review the printed report and verify the appropriate operating conditions for this specific autoclave waste decontamination cycle were met.
- ◆ Document the autoclave user on the printed report or paper tape generated by autoclave and complete the autoclave log book record for the cycle.
- ◆ If the cycle did not meet the appropriate operating conditions or aborted, repeat the autoclave cycle. If the cycle fails again, report the malfunction to the responsible person listed below. The waste is still considered infectious and must not enter the waste stream until it has been successfully autoclaved.
- ◆ Before unloading the Autoclave, wait for the pressure gauge to drop to zero with zero time remaining before opening the door.
- ◆ Using proper heat resistant PPE, carefully remove autoclaved waste immediately after the cycle is completed and the appropriate waiting time for liquids has been observed.
- ◆ Place the autoclaved waste in a black plastic lined garbage bin for disposal.

Responsible Person for this Autoclave

Name: _____

Phone: _____



<https://researchsafety.uky.edu/biological-safety>
biosafety@uky.edu