



Prestige Medical

basic training requirements

According to UK law (Pressure Systems Regulations 2000), all autoclave users must be trained. Ideally the manufacturer or his authorised agent should do this, and provide a certificate for each individual. Keeping a log detailing all training sessions undertaken by individual users will help ensure training is up to date.

The owners of the autoclave must nominate a member of their own personnel as the 'User' of the autoclave. Each 'User' should be given training in the following areas to help ensure the requirements of good practice are adhered to:

- The normal operation of the machine.
- The conducting of appropriate tests.
- The monitoring and recording of machine performance - normal and abnormal.
- The recording of machine usage.
- The maintenance of processing logs.

Anyone likely to be using the sterilizer must be trained in the correct use of the machine and must be able to demonstrate a level of competence and awareness of the following:

- The use of personal protection to combat infection risks.
- Dealing with infection risks on used items.
- Cleaning and decontamination procedures.
- Inspection and function testing of instruments.
- Appropriate packaging and labelling techniques.
- Correct loading and unloading techniques.

Examinations of processed loads, relevant recording and log maintenance.

- Reading of process indicator.
- Procedures for dealing with defective loads.
- Procedures for maintaining the autoclave in good working order, these should include routine daily tests, cleaning and maintaining water levels, normal operation, checking performance records against manufacturers data, keeping process logs, notifying and logging abnormal performance, keeping records, arranging maintenance schedules and maintaining sterile stock in process order rotation.

infection control fact sheet