
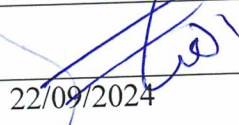


Central Sterile Supply Department

Document Title	Standard Operating Procedure for Bowie Dick Test
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Acronyms:

CSSD	Central Sterile Supply Department
TSSU	Theater Sterile Supply Unit
IAHCSMM	International Association of Health care Central Service Material Management
PPE	Personal Protective Equipment
DGKH	Directorate General of Khoula Hospital
SQUH	Sultan Qaboos University Hospital
MoH	Ministry of Health
PH	Power of hydrogen

Standard Operating Procedure for Bowie Dick test

Chapter 1

1. Introductions:

Bowie tests are designed for specific procedures such as monitoring the effectiveness of the steam sterilizer to remove air from the chamber. This test is also known dynamic air removal test .it is a class two. This test should be performed each day the sterilizer is used at the same time of day and after major repair.

2. Purpose:

The purpose of this SOP is to guide all CSSD & TSSU Technicians to perform Bowie Dick test efficiently in DGKH.

3. Scope:

This standard operating procedure applies to all technicians working in Central Sterile Supply Department (CSSD) and Theater Sterile Supply Unit (TSSU) in DGKH.

4. Definitions:

4.1 The Bowie Dick test is verifying the performance of a dynamic air removal steam sterilizer.

4.1 The test verifies the ability of the sterilizer to remove air and replace it with steam (tests steam penetration).

Chapter 2:

5. Details: procedure:

5.1 Before Procedure:

- a. Clean the autoclave and arrange the following:
 - i. Bowie Dick test pack
 - ii. Protective gloves
 - iii. Stainless steel sterilization basket

- iv. Autoclave monitoring register
- v. Graph paper for autoclave machine
- b. File for filing the Bowie Dick test result
- c. Hand hygiene facilities
- d. Logistic / computer

5.2 During Procedure:

- a. Perform hand hygiene.
- b. Switch on autoclave and ensure the pressure gauge is at 2.2 bars.
- c. Do dummy runs before Bowie Dick test to bring the autoclave to operational temperature – 136
- d. Write the number of autoclave and date on the Bowie Dick test pack.
- e. Place Bowie Dick test pack in the middle of the stainless-steel basket.
- f. Open autoclave and position basket horizontal above the drain and close door.
- g. Record time of onset of cycle in logbook.
- h. Write Bowie Dick test on graph paper, autoclave number and date.
- i. After completion of cycle remove basket containing Bowie Dick test pack and place aside to cool for 10-15 minutes.
- j. Record the time of completion in logbook.
- k. Open Bowie Dick test pack, read result and record in logbook. (with black stripes)
- l. If the test is unsatisfactory (any variation in color change) the machine should not be used and inform service personnel to rule out mechanical malfunction.

5.3 After Procedure:

- a. Replace all reusable items.
- b. Perform hand hygiene.
- c. Document appropriately in the autoclave monitoring register
- d. File the test papers and record sheets for future reference.

Chapter 3:**6. Responsibilities:****6.1 The Director of Infection Control & Occupational Safety shall:**

- 6.1.1. Emphasize all CSSD technicians to adhere to standard operating procedure of
Bowie Dick test.

6.2 CSSD in charges / shift in charges shall:

- 6.2.1 Ensure that all CSSD technicians adhered to standard operating procedure of
Bowie Dick test.

6.3. CSSD/TSSU Technicians shall:

- 6.3.1 Ensure proper testing of Bowie Dick test.
6.3.2 Maintain an accurate record.

7. Document history and version control table:

Version	Description	Document Author	Review Date
1	initial Release	Standard Operating Procedure Committee	2024
2	version two	Ms. Zainab Al Farsi	2027

8. References:

Title of book/ journal/ articles/ Website	Author	Year of publication	Page
Handbook for central sterile service technician	Directorate of training SQUH	1999	61-66
ANS/AAMI A4:2013	Stephanie Glover	2013	82-88
Central Service Technical Manual (seventh edition)	IAHCSMM	2007	379