

Standard Operating Procedures BSL-12 Laundry from Laboratories working with Risk Group 2 Pathogens

1. Scope:

The purpose of this Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) is to ensure the proper decontamination and washing of lab coats used in Biosafety Laboratories handling any Risk Group 2 pathogens.

2. Responsibilities:

Principal investigators, undergraduate students, graduate students, other faculty and any staff that will be working in a biohazard lab need to ensure lab coats are regularly decontaminated and cleaned.

3. Materials:

- Autoclave
- Indicator strips
- Autoclavable bag(s)
- Diluted bleach/isopropyl in a spray bottle (use appropriate disinfectant for the pathogen you are working with)
- Paper towels
- 3 pairs of nitrile gloves
- Autoclavable tray

4. Safety:

Know how to properly and safely use an autoclave as they use extreme heat and pressure. Refer to appropriate Standard Operating Procedure for using the different autoclaves in 4-211.

5. Procedure:

- a. Check the autoclave room and make sure one of the autoclaves is available for use.
- b. While in room 4-414, don a pair of nitrile gloves.
- c. Take the lab coat you want to autoclave and place an indicator strip in the coat pocket.
- d. Put the coat in the bag. (See Figure 1 below).



Figure 1.



Figure 2.

- e. Remove gloves and put them in the bag. The bag can gently be sealed by tying the ends together.
- f. Thoroughly spray down the outside of the bag with diluted bleach/isopropyl alcohol; let it sit for 10 minutes.
- g. **Wash your hands.**
- h. After 10 minutes dry off any residue.
- i. Transport the bag and lab coat to the autoclave room 4-211, bringing a pair of gloves with you.
- j. Open the autoclave and place the bag and lab coat in the autoclave.
- k. Put on the other pair of gloves that you brought with you.
- l. Working in front of the autoclave, open the bag and remove the coat. Leave the bag in the autoclave and place the coat folded and directly on the autoclave shelf to ensure steam can penetrate the material. (See figure 2 above).
- m. Remove gloves and place in the bag.
- n. **Wash hands.**
- o. Close the autoclave and run using a 15 minute gravity cycle.
- p. When the cycle is complete, put on a pair of gloves and remove the lab coat.
- q. Remove and check the indicator from the pocket. When sufficient decontamination parameters have been met, the indicator colour will change with a black line. If it is in the accept area the coat has been decontaminated. (See Figure 3 Below).

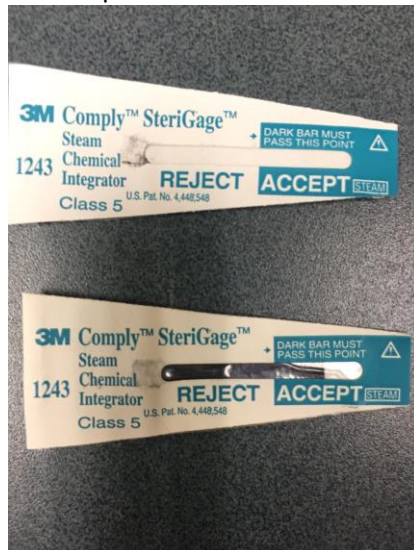


Figure 3.

- r. If indicator shows in the “accept” area, the lab coat may now be taken home to be washed. Recommend washing on its own with a small amount of bleach.
- s. Remove your gloves and dispose of them along with the bag in the regular garbage. If the indicator shows in the “reject” area, contact the Biosafety Officer.

6. Records:

Record the use of the autoclave in the log sheet.

7. List of attachments:

None.

8. History:

Created by Lydia Troc, UNBC Biosafety Officer March 21, 2017

9. Approval: