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Table 7: Minimum cycle times for steam sterilization cycles

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Guideline for Disinfection and Sterilization in Healthcare Facilities (2008)

AT A GLANCE

Table 7 from the Guideline for Disinfection and Sterilization in Healthcare Facilities (2008).

Table

Type of Sterilizer	Item	Exposure time at 250°F (121°C)	Exposure time at 270°F (132°C)	Drying time
Gravity displacement	Wrapped instruments	30 min	15 min	15-30 min
Gravity displacement	Textile packs	30 min	25 min	15 min
Gravity displacement	Wrapped utensils	30 min	15 min	15-30 min
Dynamic-air-removal (e.g., prevacuum)	Wrapped instruments	Not Applicable	4 min	20-30 min
Dynamic-air-removal (e.g., prevacuum)	Textile packs	Not Applicable	4 min	5-20 min
Dynamic-air-removal (e.g., prevacuum)	Wrapped utensils	Not Applicable	4 min	20 min

Sterilizer type, example item, and exposure time.

Modified from Association for the Advancement of Medical Instrumentation. ^{813, 819}

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[National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases \(NCEZID\)](#)



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