PST Instrument Trays Instructions for Use:

PST instrument trays are designed to encase instruments during processing and are safe for all standard sterilization methods: Autoclave/dry heat up to 360ºF, ETO, and Cold Solutions.

- Tray will last over 1000 cycles when properly handled and processed.
- An appropriate sterile barrier will be required to maintain sterility.
- Use of the PST Instrument Trays must be in accordance with the operating instructions supplied with your particular sterilization equipment and in keeping with your particular sterilization equipment and in keeping with your hospital policy on sterilization validation. Several organizations (e.g., AAMI, AORN and ISO) publish guidance information on sterilization usage should you need additional information.
- Periodic cleaning of the trays after sterilization process is recommended to prolong usable life.
- Do not use if damaged

General guidelines for periodic cleaning and before sterilizing:

- All trays should be cleaned, disinfected and sterilized before use for the first time and then after every use and/or every time they are contaminated.
- During the cleaning stages the trays must be disassembled completely.
- Under running water and rinsing thoroughly (or you can use a disinfectant solution rinsing thoroughly) use a soft brush or soft cloth to manually remove impurities. Cleaning the surfaces until there is no more visible contamination and cleaning the holes separately with a fine brush. When visible contamination is gone be sure to rinse all parts thoroughly under the water at least three times, moving parts back and forth to ensure contamination and solution (if applicable) is removed completely.
- Clean and disinfect the used instruments before placing into the tray – this will help eliminate any extra contamination
- Then place instruments into the cleaned re-assembled tray for sterilization

Sterilization:

Sterilization Modality	AAMI	AORN
Gravity Unwrapped "Flash" Sterilization 270ºF (132ºC) Metal Instruments Only	3 minutes (Metal instruments only) 10 minutes(Mixed porous, nonporous items)	3 minutes (Metal; nonporous items, no lumens) or depends on manufacturer's recommendations
Gravity Unwrapped "Flash" Sterilization 270ºF (132ºC) Mixed porous, nonporous items	10 minutes	10 minutes (Metal with lumens, porous items sterilized together) or depends on manufacturer's recommendations
Gravity Wrapped 270ºF to 275º F (132ºC to 135ºC)	10 to 15 minutes exposure for all items	Depends on load, instruments and written manufacturer's recommendations
Gravity Wrapped 250ºF to 254º F (121ºC to 123ºC)	15 to 30 minutes exposure for all items	Depends on load, instruments and written manufacturer's recommendations
Pre-vacuum Unwrapped "Flash" Sterilization 270ºF (132ºC)	3 minutes (Metal instruments only) 4minutes(Mixed porous, nonporous items	Depends on load, instruments and Written manufacturer's recommendations
Pre-vacuum Wrapped 270ºF to 275º F (132º C to 135ºC)	3 to 4 minutes – all items	Depends on load, instruments and written manufacturer's recommendations
Dry Heat Sterilization 338ºF (170ºC) Generally used in the sterilization of items that can withstand high temps such as glassware, heat-stable powers, and heat-stable oils.	60 minutes	Follow Manufacturer's written instructions

- For further guidelines seek AAMI, AORN & ISO published guidance as PST trays are not validated.

PST VALIDATION

The trays manufactured by PST are intended to be used with an over wrap or placed into a sterilization container with filters or valves for the intent purpose of sterilizing the contents and maintaining sterility. It is not possible for a manufacturer of instrument trays to make claims about sterility when the eventual contents are not known. Moreover, it is not possible for instrument trays to maintain sterility of the contents because they are not manufactured for the purpose of providing a barrier for a sterile environment. That is why they must be used with over wraps or placed in a closed sterilization container that maintains sterility.

The end user is best suited to assess the efficacy of the sterilization process by utilizing current standards and load assessment and to develop procedures for establishing efficacy and shelf life standards. It is not possible for us to know, or instruct, as to what the contents or eventual use of the tray will be.

Testing can only be done once all of the intended components are identified and all of the contents are brought together and assembled. The testing need be accomplished with an over wrap or sterilization container for the intended purpose of sterilizing the contents. The end user normally develops procedures and standards to accomplish this. Certain biological and chemical parameters are used to validate the process as directed by internal standards and procedures at the end-user's facility. The manufacturer has no control over these functions.

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