3M™ Attest™ 1296/1296F Rapid Readout Biological Indicator Steam Pack

Product Description

The 3M™ Attest™ 1296 Rapid Readout Biological Indicator Steam Pack is specifically designed for the rapid, reliable monitoring of steam sterilization processes when used with the 3M™ Attest™ 290 Auto-reader or the 3M™ Attest™ Auto-reader 390. This pack is designed to present a resistant challenge to the sterilization process as was the standard 16-towel pack recommended by AAMI. The test pack is a single use device.

Each pack contains a 3M™ Attest™ 1292 Rapid Readout Biological Indicator (brown cap) and a record keeping sheet with a chemical indicator. Attest™ biological indicator controls are provided. When steam processed, the process indicator on the pack label and the chemical indicator strip on the record keeping sheet change from yellow to brown or darker, and the chemical indicator on the Attest™ 1292 Rapid Readout Biological Indicator vial label changes from rose to brown/black.

The Attest™ 1292 Rapid Readout Biological Indicator detects the presence of *Geobacillus stearothermophilus* by detecting the activity of alpha-glucosidase, an enzyme present within the organism. The presence of the enzyme is detected by reading fluorescence produced by the enzymatic breakdown of a non-fluorescent substrate. This creates a fluorescence change, which is detected by the Attest™ Auto-reader. A fluorescence change indicates a steam sterilization process failure.

The Attest™ 1292 Rapid Readout Biological Indicator also detects the presence of *G. stearothermophilus* organisms by a visual color change reaction. Biochemical activity of the *G. stearothermophilus* organism produces acidic by-products that cause the media to change color from purple to yellow. A visual pH color change also indicates a steam sterilization process failure. Due to the high sensitivity of the 3-hour fluorescent results, however, there is no advantage to incubating the Attest™ 1292 Rapid Readout Biological Indicator beyond 3 hours.

Indications for Use

Use the Attest™ 1296 Rapid Readout Biological Indicator Steam Pack to monitor:

1. 250°F (121°C) gravity steam sterilization cycles ≥40 minutes.
2. 270°F (132°C) vacuum assisted steam sterilization cycles ≥4 minutes.

Contraindications

None.

Warnings

There is a glass ampoule inside the plastic vial of the biological indicator. To avoid the risk of serious injury from flying debris due to a ruptured biological indicator:

- Allow the biological indicator to cool for the recommended time period before crushing. Crushing or excessive handling of the biological indicator before cooling may cause the glass ampoule to burst.
- Wear safety glasses and gloves when removing the test pack from the sterilizer.
- Wear safety glasses when crushing the biological indicator.
- Handle the biological indicator by the cap when crushing and tapping.
- Do not use your fingers to crush the glass ampoule.
- Do not roll the biological indicator between fingers to wet the spore strip.

Precautions

DO NOT use the 3M™ Attest™ 1296 Rapid Readout Biological Indicator Steam Pack to monitor sterilization cycles which it is not designed to challenge:

1. 121°C (250°F) gravity steam sterilization cycles < 40 minutes.
1. 121°C (250°F) vacuum assisted steam sterilization cycles.
2. 132°C (270°F) gravity steam sterilization cycles.
3. 132°C (270°F) vacuum assisted steam sterilization cycles <4 minutes.
4. Dry heat, chemical vapor, ethylene oxide or other low temperature sterilization processes.

To ensure the test pack delivers the intended challenge:

- DO NOT open pack prior to sterilization;
- DO NOT reuse test pack.

Monitoring Frequency

Follow facility Policies and Procedures which should specify a biological indicator monitoring frequency compliant with professional association recommended practices and/or national guidelines and standards. As a best practice and to provide optimal patient safety, 3M recommends that every steam sterilization load be monitored with an appropriate biological indicator.

Directions for Use

1. Place a 3M™ Attest™ 1296 Rapid Readout Biological Indicator Steam Pack, with the label side up, in a full load in the most challenging area for the sterilant. This is generally on the bottom shelf, near the door and over the drain.
2. Process the load according to recommended practices.
3. After completion of the cycle, while wearing heat resistant gloves, retrieve the 3M™ Attest™ 1296 Rapid Readout Biological Indicator Steam Pack.
4. Check to see that the external process indicator on the outside of the test pack has turned from yellow to brown or darker. Then open the pack for 5 minutes to dissipate heat prior to removing the biological indicator. Next, allow the biological indicator to cool outside the pack for an additional 10 minutes prior to crushing.
5. Remove the record keeping sheet from inside the 3M™ Attest™ 1296 Rapid Readout Biological Indicator Steam Pack. Check the chemical indicator on the record keeping sheet. A color change from yellow to brown or darker confirms the pack has been exposed to the steam sterilization process. This color change does not indicate that the process was sufficient to achieve sterility. For a permanent record, fill out the required information on the record keeping sheet. Record the biological indicator result when it is available.
6. Slip the coil off the Attest™ biological indicator.
7. Check the throughput chemical indicator (CI) on the label of the Attest™ 1292 Rapid Readout Biological Indicator. A color change from rose to brown/black confirms that the biological indicator has been exposed to the steam sterilization process. This color change does not indicate that the process was sufficient to achieve sterility.
8. Identify the Attest™ biological indicator by writing the sterilizer, load number, and processing date on the indicator label. Do not place another label or indicator tape on the Attest™ biological indicator vial.
9. Discard the test pack. Using a test pack more than once will invalidate subsequent test results.

10. While wearing safety glasses, press the biological indicator cap down. Crush the glass ampoule of the biological indicator in the crusher well of the auto-reader. Hold the biological indicator by the cap and tap on a hard surface, but not on the auto-reader, until the media wets the strip at bottom of the vial. Then place the biological indicator in an auto-reader incubation well configured to incubate Attest™ 1292 Rapid Readout Biological Indicators. See Attest™ Auto-reader Operator's Manual for further details.
11. Each day that a processed Attest™ 1292 Rapid Readout Biological Indicator is incubated, crush, tap and incubate at least one non-processed Attest™ 1292 Rapid Readout Biological Indicator to use as a positive control. Write a "C" (for "control") and the date on the label. The positive control biological indicator should be from the same manufacturing date and lot number as the processed biological indicator.

It is a good practice to incubate a positive control for a visual color change each day a processed biological tested is incubated. This helps ensure:

- correct incubation temperatures are met,
- viability of spores have not been altered due to improper storage temperature, humidity or proximity to chemicals,
- capability of media to promote rapid growth, and
- proper functioning of Attest™ Auto-reader.

12. Incubation and Reading:

    Incubate the positive control and sterilized Attest™ 1292 Rapid Readout Biological Indicators for 3 hours at 60 ± 2°C (140 ± 3°F) in a 3M™ Attest™ 290 Auto-reader or a 3M™ Attest™ Auto-reader 390. See the applicable auto-reader Operator's Manual for the proper use of this equipment. The auto-readers automatically take readings and indicate a positive result as soon it is obtained. The final fluorescent negative biological indicator reading is made at 3 hours. After the final reading is obtained the processed biological indicator may be discarded.

    The processed biological indicator and the positive control may also be further incubated at 60ºC for a visual pH color change. Examine the biological indicator for early detection of positive results (media turns yellow) at convenient time intervals such as 12, 18 and 24 hours. The final negative reading (media remains purple) for a visual pH color change is made at 48 hours. The positive control should show a yellow color change of the growth media within 48 hours.

    Interpretation of Results:

    Fluorescent Result

    The positive (unprocessed) control biological indicator must provide a positive result [red light on the 3M™ Attest™ 290 Auto-reader or plus symbol (+) on the LCD display of the 3M™ Attest™ Auto-reader 390]. If the positive biological indicator control reads negative [green light on the 3M™ Attest™ 290 Auto-reader or minus symbol (-) on the LCD display of the 3M™ Attest™ Auto-reader 390], refer to the applicable auto-reader Operator's Manual Troubleshooting section. Retest the auto-reader with a new positive control biological indicator. The processed biological indicator results are not valid until the positive biological indicator control reads positive.

    With a processed biological indicator, a positive [red light on the 3M™ Attest™ 290 Auto-reader or plus symbol (+) on the LCD display of the 3M™ Attest™ Auto-reader 390] means a sterilization process failure has occurred. A negative [green light on the 3M™ Attest™ 290 Auto-reader or minus symbol (-) on the LCD display of the 3M™ Attest™ Auto-reader 390] after 3 hours of incubation indicates an acceptable sterilization process.

    pH Color Change Result (Optional)

    The appearance of a yellow color in the processed indicator demonstrates bacterial growth and a sterilization process failure. No color change (i.e. media remains purple) indicates an adequate sterilization process. A final negative result is made after 48 hours of incubation. The positive control indicator should show a color change from purple to yellow for the processed indicator results to be valid.

13. Record the processed and control biological indicator results. Act on any positive test result as soon as it is noted. Always retest the sterilizer and do not use the sterilizer until three consecutive biological indicator results are negative.

Disposal

Dispose of used Attest™ biological indicators according to your healthcare facility's policy. You may wish to sterilize any positive biological indicators at 121°C (250°F) for ≥30 minutes in a gravity- displacement steam sterilizer or at 132°C (270°F) for ≥4 minutes in a vacuum- assisted steam sterilizer.

Storage

- Best stored under normal room conditions: 15-30ºC (59-86ºF) and 35-60% relative humidity.
- Store away from direct sunlight. Do not store near sterilants or other chemicals.

Validation of Reduced Incubation Times (Readout Reliability Data)

The 3-hour and 48-hour incubation times have been correlated with a 7-day incubation period. Sterilized indicators were examined daily for detection of a visual pH color change. The 3-hour fluorescence change reading and the 48-hour visual pH color change reading were compared to the 7-day visual pH color change readings to determine the readout reliability of the indicator. Readout reliability of the Attest™ 1292 rapid readout biological indicator was determined using the sensitivity calculation described below:

$$\text{Sensitivity} = \frac{(\text{Number of Growth Positives after 168 hours}) - (\text{Number of False Negatives})}{\text{Number of Growth Positives after 168 Hours}} \times 100$$

Attest™ 1292 Rapid Readout Biological Indicators
121°C (250°F) Gravity Displacement and 132°C (270°F) Vacuum Assisted
Steam Sterilization Processes
Validation of Reduced Incubation Time - Readout Reliability Summary

Sterilization Process	Incubation Temperature	# Tested	# Growth Positives at 168 hours	Growth		Fluorescence	
				# False Negatives at 48 hours	Sensitivity at 48 hours	# False Negatives at 3 hours	Sensitivity at 3 hours
121°C (250°F) Gravity Displacement	60°C (140°F)	1620	800	5	99.4	0	100
132°C (270°F) Vacuum Assisted	60°C (140°F)	1270	654	2	99.7	0	100

These data demonstrate that ≥ 97% of the 7-day (i.e. 168 hours) growth visual positives were detected by fluorescence within 3 hours of incubation and by the visual pH color within 48 hours of incubation. The 3M™ Attest™ 1292 Rapid Readout Biological Indicator therefore meets readout reliability of ≥ 97% for the 3 hour fluorescence results and the 48 hour visual color change results.

Explanation of Symbols

 Caution, see instructions for use

 Do not reuse

 Use by date

LOT Batch code

 Manufacturer

 Date of manufacture

REF Catalog number

STEAM Product is designed for use with steam sterilization cycles

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