Contents

Page

Glossary of equivalent standards v

Committee representation vii

Acknowledgments ix

Foreword x

1 Scope 1

1.1 General 1
1.2 Inclusions 1
1.3 Exclusions 1

2 Normative references 1

3 Definitions, symbols, and abbreviations 2

4 Requirements 4

4.1 Labeling 4
4.1.1 Device markings 4
4.1.2 Information manual 5
4.1.3 Service manual 5
4.2 Sterilizer design, construction, components, and accessories 6
4.2.1 Pressure requirements 6
4.2.2 Pressure vessel certification 6
4.2.3 Electrical components 6
4.2.4 Corrosion resistance 6
4.2.5 Air filters 6
4.3 Sterilizer safety 6
4.3.1 Interlock 6
4.3.2 Prevention of thermal hazards 6
4.3.3 Sterilizer controls for aborting cycles 6
4.4 Process monitoring and control devices 7
4.4.1 General 7
4.4.2 Chamber temperature 7
4.4.3 Thermometric test connection 7
4.4.4 Sterilizer exposure timer 7
4.4.5 Pressure measurement 8
4.4.6 Cycle documentation 8
4.5 Biological performance of sterilizers 8
4.6 Mechanical air removal 8
4.6.1 Air removal (dynamic-air-removal sterilizers) 8
4.6.2 Air leaks (prevacuum sterilizers) 8
4.7 Sterilizer performance certification and recordkeeping 8

5 Tests 9

5.1 Labeling 9
5.2 Sterilizer design, construction, components, and accessories 9
5.2.1 Pressure requirements 9
5.2.2 Pressure vessel certification 9
5.2.3 Electrical components 9
5.2.4 Corrosion resistance 9
5.2.5 Air filters 9
5.3 Sterilizer safety 9
5.3.1 Interlock 9

5.3.2 Prevention of thermal hazards 9
5.3.3 Sterilizer controls for aborting cycles 10
5.4 Process monitoring and control devices 10
5.4.1 General 10
5.4.2 Chamber temperature 10
5.4.3 Thermometric test connection 10
5.4.4 Sterilizer exposure timer 10
5.4.5 Pressure measurement 10
5.4.6 Cycle documentation 10
5.5 Biological performance of sterilizers 11
5.5.1 General testing requirements 11
5.5.2 Biological performance with a fabric PCD 11
5.5.3 Biological performance with liquid loads (if applicable) 13
5.5.4 Biological performance with wrapped instrument PCD 14
5.5.5 Biological performance of abbreviated (flash) cycles for single-wrapped or unwrapped nonporous items 16
5.6 Mechanical air remova testsl 17
5.6.1 Air removal test (dynamic-air-removal sterilizers) 17
5.6.2 Air leak-rate test (prevacuum sterilizers) 21
5.7 Sterilizer performance certification and recordkeeping 21

Annexes

A Rationale for the development and provisions of this standard 22

B Examples of cycle documentation 26

C Bibliography 30

Tables

1 Conversions of saturated pressure units at sea level 4

Figures

1 Preparation of the fabric (16-towel) PCD 12

2 Placement of fabric (16-towel) PCD for qualification testing of gravity-displacement steam sterilizers 12

3 Example of a surgical instrument tray to be used in the wrapped instrument PCD 15

4 Surgical instrument tray (25 cm by 51 cm [10 inches by 20 inches]) and wrapper (137 cm by 137 cm [54 inches by 54 inches]) for use in the wrapped instrument PCD 15

5 Composition of the Bowie-Dick test pack 18

6 Placement of the Bowie-Dick test pack 19

7 Time-temperature profile of temperature sensor T1 20

B.1 Schematic of a cycle 26

B.2 Example of a cycle printout 27

B.3 Example of a cycle printout 28

B.4 Example of cycle printout information 29