

# Steraffirm™ Bowie Dick Test Packs



The Steraffirm Bowie Dick Test packs are pre-assembled single-use test packs designed to evaluate the performance of the air removal system of a pre-vacuum equipped sterilizer. Several versions of these test packs are available. They are calibrated to be compatible with prevacuum cycles operating at specific exposure temperatures or within a specified exposure temperature range. The Steraffirm Bowie Dick Test packs conform to the EN 867-4: 2001 (Class B) or ANSI/AAMI ST66 standards. They are for use in life sciences applications only. They are not approved for use in healthcare facilities in the United States.

Each Steraffirm Bowie Dick Test pack consists of a series of steam penetration (air removal) barriers into which a chemical indicator sheet is embedded. The test pack is placed directly into an otherwise empty steam sterilizer chamber between 4-8 inches (100-200mm) over the chamber drain (on a perforated support not provided by STERIS). During the prevacuum cycle air must be removed or displaced from the barrier material and steam must replace the air throughout the pack. A uniform change from yellow to blue/purple indicates adequate steam penetration. The thermochromatic ink formulation detects problems with steam quality, and the ink is free of lead and other heavy metals.

STERIS®

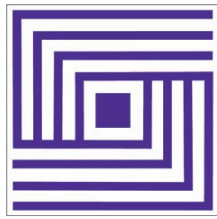


Life Sciences

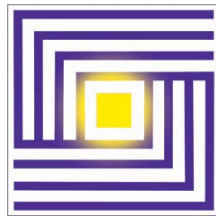
## Steraffirm Bowie Dick Test Packs



Unused



Pass



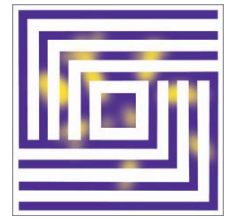
Typical failure



Atypical failure:  
Possible cause  
Poor quality  
"wet steam"



Atypical Failure  
Possible cause:  
Superheated Steam



Atypical Failure  
Possible cause:  
Non-condensable gas  
in steam supply

Colors are an approximation.

Features	Benefits
Preassembled, single-use pack	Eliminates the need to construct test packs
Abrupt and distinctive total color change from yellow to blue/purple	Facilitates interpretation of test pack results
Several temperature specific exposure versions of the test pack are available	Allows the evaluation of the air removal effectiveness of a sterilizer cycle using the preconditioning and exposure temperature parameters actually used in the processing cycles
No lead or other heavy metals	No concern over exposure to lead or other heavy metals
Indicator sheet can be kept as a permanent record; Space is allotted on the back for critical cycle information to be recorded	Valuable documentation of the air removal efficacy of the prevacuum sterilizer
Lot number and expiration on each pack and indicator sheet	Enhances traceability and enables recognition of expired packs at the time of use
Conforms to EN 867-4:2001 Class B or ANSI/AAMI ST66 standards	Meets a critical standard as a Bowie Dick alternative indicator for the detection of steam penetration
Can detect "wet steam," superheated steam, and non-condensables in the steam supply	Provides indication of steam quality issues that can affect the sterilization process

Product	Description	Quantity
EQC001	Steraffirm Bowie Dick Test Packs for 132°C/270°F	20/box
EQC002	Steraffirm Bowie Dick Test Packs for 134-137°C/273-279°F	20/box
EQC003	Steraffirm Bowie Dick Test Packs for 121-124°C/250-255°F	20/box



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