

Identi-Tape Vinyl Identification Tapes

Identi-Tape Vinyl Identification Tapes (VIT) are made from 3M 471 vinyl tape for the purpose of color-coding identification of dental and surgical instruments. 3M 471 vinyl is well-suited for this purpose due to its ability to resist the high temperatures of sterilization and still retain adhesion. Moreover, they have been tested and evaluated for sterilization efficacy according to the following procedure:

Ten biological sample indicators (*Bacillus Subtilis* or *Bacillus Stearothermophilus*) were taped onto stainless steel plates with 3M #471 vinyl tape and were then exposed to either an Ethylene Oxide (EtO) sterilization process, or a steam sterilization cycle, and were then tested for sterility.

EtO sterilization consisted of a Steri-Vac 202 utilizing the warm cycle (145 degree for 130 minutes).

Steam sterilization consisted of a Barnstead Autoclave cycle of 250 degrees F for 15 minutes followed by 10 minutes dry time.

RESULTS: For both species of bacteria, under both sterilization methods, 100 percent sterilization was observed.

Based on the results of this testing, it can be concluded that our Vinyl Instrument Identification Tapes (VIT) do not inhibit instrument sterilization by either Ethylene Oxide (EtO) or steam sterilization methods.

VIT were also tested at 273 degrees F (134 degrees C) and remained stable.

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