



Sterile Packaging Best Practices

Key principles for safe and effective packaging: materials, sizing, sealing, labelling and storage.

Material selection

Use ISO 11607-1 / EN 868-5 paper-film pouches and reels for steam, EO and formaldehyde; Tyvek® or non-woven for hydrogen peroxide plasma. Ask suppliers for conformity statements and test data.

Sizing and loading

- Leave at least 30 mm between the instrument and each seal.
- Fill pouches to no more than three-quarters; use gusseted reels for bulky sets.
- Open hinged instruments; protect sharp tips; point tips away from the peel side.

Sealing

Heat seals should be continuous, at least 6 mm wide and free of channels or wrinkles. Validate sealer temperature, pressure and dwell time (ISO 11607-2) and run seal tests regularly. Self-seal pouches: fold along the perforation and press the full adhesive strip.

Labelling

Write on the film side, outside the seal, or on the indicator tape — never on the paper barrier. Record contents, date, sterilizer, cycle number and operator.

Drying, cooling and storage

Packs must be completely dry before handling; wet packs are reprocessed. Cool on the cart in a draught-free area. Store below 25 °C and 60 % RH, in closed cupboards, 25 cm above the floor. Shelf life is event-related; inspect every pack before opening. Kangde Med recommends a validity of 6 months after sterilization.

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