

Cleaning and Sterilization Service

Overview

The Department provides a designated space in each floor for cleaning and sterilization, equipped with glassware washers, sterilizers, and ovens for drying glassware. Autoclaves, also known as sterilizers, are high-pressure steam chambers designed to disinfect, decontaminate, and sterilize laboratory equipment using incredibly hot, pressurized steam. They work by removing air, injecting steam at high temperatures (121–134 °C) under pressure, and maintaining this condition for a specific time to destroy bacteria, viruses, and spores.

The guidelines aim to ensure the safety of personnel, the protection of equipment, and the effectiveness of sterilization processes for scientific research.

Equipments and location

The facility provides authorized users with the following equipment:

AUTOCLAVES		LOCATION
	Fedegari FVM3 Autoclave	Floor 1N room 02 - 126
	Fedegari FVM3 Autoclave	Floor 5N room 06 - 136
	De Lama VS/E Autoclave	Floor 2N room 03 - 143

GLASSWASHERS		
	SMEG Glasswasher	Floor 1N room 02 - 126
	SMEG Glasswasher	Floor 2N room 03 - 143

User manuals are available on the website: <https://facilities.biomed.unipd.it/>

Opening hours

Monday to Friday: 8:00 – 19:00

Service Coordinator

Angelita Tottene

Staff

Dr. Angela Chiavegato (049-8276075)

Dr. Elena Trevisan (049-8276064)

Dr. Morena Simonato (049-8276056)

Dr. Alessandra Folda (049 8276148)

For informations write to: facilities.services.biomed@unipd.it

The Facility's staff is available Monday to Friday during working hours (09:00 - 16:00).

Autoclaves guidelines

Prior to operating an autoclave, **laboratory personnel should undergo comprehensive training customized to the particular make and model of the unit.**

First use of the instrument and training

The training is mandatory: please contact the staff at facilities.services.biomed@unipd.it prior to the first access, to book the training session.

Booking procedures

It is necessary to reserve instruments through the booking platform of the Department of Biomedical Sciences, at <https://prenotazioni.biomed.unipd.it/strumenti/week.php>, using your laboratory's account (corresponding to PI or budget holder). If you don't have an account to access the booking platform, please contact our ICT service staff at informatica.biomed@unipd.it.

When making your reservation, indicate the name of the user, the group leader, and lab phone number.

If necessary, reservations can be cancelled no later than 24h prior to the reserved slot.

Rules

Access to the facility and use of the equipment are allowed exclusively on the condition that the user has:

- Completed general safety training for laboratories (Legislative Decree 81/08).
- Completed the mandatory specific technical training provided by the Facility Manager or authorized technical personnel.
- Received formal authorization to use each specific model (Fedegari or De Lama).

The use of pressurized vessels and high temperatures involves risks of burns and trauma. The use of the following PPE is mandatory during unloading and handling operations:

- Heat-insulating gloves (EN 407 certified) resistant to high temperatures.
- Face shield or safety goggles to protect against potential splashes of hot liquids or glassware breakage.
- Laboratory coat made of cotton or non-synthetic material.
- Closed-toe shoes with non-slip soles.

Operating Procedure

Load Preparation

Use only containers suitable for autoclaving (Pyrex/Duran glassware, PP/PMP plastics).

Never seal bottles containing liquids hermetically (explosion risk).

Verify that the material does not contain volatile, flammable, or toxic substances.

Before starting, check water levels (if applicable) and the cleanliness of the door gasket.

Always wait for the cycle to complete and for atmospheric pressure/safety temperature to be reached before opening.

Malfunction Management

In case of anomalies (unusual noises, steam leaks, error messages on the display):

1. Stop the cycle immediately if it can be done safely.
2. Place an 'OUT OF SERVICE' sign on the equipment.
3. Promptly report the fault to the Technical Manager via email or the facility portal.

User support material

Manuale Autoclave Fedegari FVM3

Manuale Autoclave De Lama DLVS

Guidelines