



HSC Safety Tips No. (20)

1. **ALWAYS AVOID** potential burns or cuts while handling or sorting hot sterilized items or sharp instruments, and use caution when removing them from autoclaves/sterilizers or from steam lines that service the autoclaves.
2. **ALWAYS** wear appropriate PPE when working with autoclaves/sterilizers. Using oven mitts for handling hot items, and steel-mesh gloves for handling or sorting sharp instruments are examples of appropriate PPE.
3. The autoclave/sterilizer door **MUST ALWAYS** be closed and locked before beginning the cycle.
4. **DO NOT** remove items from an autoclave/sterilizer until they have cooled.
5. **ALWAYS** use forceps or other tools to remove sharp instruments from baskets and autoclaves.

