3M™ Attest™ Super Rapid Readout Biological Indicator 1491

Competency Assessment for use of the
3M™ Attest™ Super Rapid Readout Biological Indicator 1491
in conjunction with the 3M™ Attest™ Auto-reader 490/490H
(software version 4.2.7 or greater)

Employee Name: _____ Date: _____
Facility: _____ Dept: _____
Assessor's Name: _____ Employee Competent? Yes No

Observation Checklist

Task	Demonstrates Competency
Test 1491 BI is placed in representative Process Challenge Device (PCD)	
PCD is placed in sterilizer per recommended practices.	
A 270°F (132°C) or 275°F (135°C) gravity steam sterilization cycle is run, PCD is retrieved, and BI is removed and allowed to cool for 10 minutes	
Safety glasses are donned	
The process indicator on top of the cap of the processed 1491 BI is checked to confirm it has changed from pink to light brown or darker	
1491 BI is identified (i.e., load #, sterilizer #, and date are written on BI label)	
1491 BI is activated by placing BI in activator and squeezing to push BI cap down and crush media ampoule	
1491 BI is flicked to distribute growth media	
Presence of media in 1491 BI growth chamber is visually verified	
1491 BI is placed in any well of an Auto-reader 490 or 490H having software version 4.2.7 or greater. Auto-reader displays 24 remaining minutes of incubation under BI.	
Test BI lot # and result are documented according to facility policy	
Control BI lot # and result are documented or user verifies a control BI result has already been documented for the day	

(Please turn over for Written Assessment component of competency→)

Written Assessment

1. Biological indicators (BIs) are used to assess the lethality of a sterilization cycle.
   a) True
   b) False

2. For immediate use steam sterilizers, our facility's policy is to run a biological indicator:
   a) In every load
   b) Daily and in every implant load
   c) Weekly and in every implant load

3. According to AAMI ST79, BIs used to monitor steam sterilizers should contain spores of which microorganism?
   a) *Bacillus atrophaeus*
   b) *Geobacillus stearothermophilus*
   c) *Clostridium difficile*

4. A control 1491 BI, having the same lot # as the test BIs, should be placed in each Auto-reader 490/490H at what frequency?
   a) Daily and whenever a box having a new lot number is opened
   b) Weekly
   c) Each time a test BI is incubated
   d) Once/box of biological indicators

5. The Attest™ BI 1491 is indicated to monitor:
   a) 270°F (132°C) and 275°F (135°C) pre-vacuum steam sterilization cycles
   b) 270°F (132°C) and 275°F (135°C) gravity displacement use steam sterilization cycles
   c) 250°F (121°C) gravity displacement steam sterilization cycles

6. After a successful sterilization cycle, the Attest™ BI 1491 requires ___ of incubation before a negative result ('-' symbol) will be shown on the Auto-reader 490/490H LCD display:
   a) 24 minutes
   b) 30 minutes
   c) 24 hours

7. A positive result ('+' symbol on the Auto-reader 490/490H LCD display) for a processed BI indicates:
   a) a failed sterilization cycle
   b) a successful sterilization cycle

8. When a positive result ('+' symbol) occurs for a processed BI, and the cause of the failure cannot be immediately identified, (circle correct answer)
   a) No action is necessary
   b) That load should be quarantined.
   c) The sterilizer should be removed from service, all items processed in the sterilizer since the last cycle having a negative BI result should be recalled, and the supervisor should be notified.