



IS 3831: 1979 Specification for sterilizer, shallow (Dressing Drum)

IS 3831: 1979 is an Indian Standard that specifies the design, material, and performance requirements for shallow sterilizers, commonly referred to as dressing drums. These are essential in medical settings for sterilizing, storing, and transporting dressing materials and surgical supplies, maintaining their sterility until use.

The standard specifies that dressing drums should be constructed from **stainless steel** or other **corrosion-resistant metals** that can withstand high-temperature sterilization processes, such as autoclaving. The materials and design should ensure ease of cleaning, with smooth surfaces to prevent contamination. IS 3831 outlines dimensions for various drum sizes, ensuring standardization and compatibility with commonly used sterilization equipment.

Key features of the dressing drums include ventilation holes or slits that allow steam or sterilizing agents to reach all parts of the drum, ensuring effective sterilization. These vents can be securely closed after sterilization, keeping contents sterile during storage and transport. The drum closure mechanism should be secure yet easy to open, allowing quick access while preserving sterility.

The standard also mandates clear marking and labelling on each dressing drum, including the manufacturer's name and batch number, which should remain visible and legible after multiple sterilization cycles. This labelling supports traceability and quality control. To meet IS 3831 compliances, the dressing drums undergo tests for durability, corrosion resistance, and effectiveness in maintaining sterility under repeated use.

IS 3831 ensures that dressing drums are reliable, safe, and effective for frequent use in medical environments, contributing to overall hygiene and patient safety.