Autoclave Protocol

YOU CANNOT USE THE AUTOCLAVE UNLESS YOU HAVE TAKEN ONLINE TRAINING AND IN PERSON TRAINING WITH ROSIE FALCO

For training and questions, see Rosie Falco (OGL, <u>r.falco@northeastern.edu</u>). Training takes ~15 minutes and is required per Northeastern EHS policies.

1. Make sure the white hand is pointing to zero.



- a. If the white hand is not pointing to zero, DO NOT OPEN THE AUTOCLAVE. Come back later.
- b. If the white hand is at zero, but the red is not, reset the red to zero before use.
- 2. Open the door to make sure the autoclave is empty.
 - a. If there is something inside the autoclave, check the log to see who it belongs to and how long ago it finished sterilizing. Please allow a reasonable amount of time for other users to remove their items or inform them before removing items from the autoclave.
- 3. Turn on the autoclave.
- 4. Fill water.
 - a. Open the autoclave completely until you can see the groove.
 - b. Turn the settings dial to Fill Water (pointing right).
 - c. When the water reaches the divot in the front of the autoclave, turn the dial to Sterilize (pointing down).
- 5. Put your items into the autoclave.
 - a. Make sure everything you are putting into the autoclave is autoclave safe!
 - b. Make sure all lids are loose!
 - c. If you don't know if something is safe to be autoclaved, DO NOT put it in the autoclave!
 - d. There is a roll of autoclave tape above the autoclave.
- 6. Close door, but do not over tighten.
- 7. Set temperature based on the specific needs of the items you are autoclaving.
 - a. See table on the front of the autoclave for more information.

- 8. Set time.
 - a. This begins sterilization.
 - b. Allow 20 extra minutes for the autoclave to cool and return to ambient pressure.
- 9. Fill out autoclave log.
 - a. This is an EHS requirement.
 - b. Please write clearly and make sure your name is legible.
- 10. After sterilization, make sure the white hand is pointing to zero.
 - a. If the white hand is not pointing to zero, **DO NOT OPEN THE AUTOCLAVE**. Come back later.
 - b. The red hand will show the maximum pressure. Reset to zero after use.
- 11. Optional: If you want to dry your items, turn the settings dial to Exh+Dry (pointing left) and set time for 20-40 minutes.
- 12. If the white hand is at zero, open the door and remove your items.
 - a. Allow 20 minutes for the autoclave to cool and reduce in pressure.
 - b. There are autoclave gloves above the autoclave. Please remember to return them if you use them!
 - c. Please be considerate of other users and remove your items promptly.
- 13. Turn dial to 0 (pointing up) and turn autoclave off.

