

Interim Australian Standard™

**Batch-type washer/disinfectors for
health care facilities**

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This Australian Standard was prepared by Committee ME-003, Sterilizing Equipment. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 26 October 2001 and published on 9 January 2002.

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**Batch-type washer/disinfectors for
health care facilities**

Originated as AS 2711—1984.
Previous edition AS 2945—1988.
Revised and designated as AS 2945(Int)—2002.

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Published by Standards Australia International Ltd
GPO Box 5420, Sydney, NSW 2001, Australia

ISBN 0 7337 4212 2

PREFACE

This Interim Australian Standard was prepared by the Standards Australia Committee ME-003, Sterilizing Equipment, to supersede AS 2945—1998.

The objective of this Standard is to standardize the performance of washer/disinfectors used in health care facilities

The Scope of this edition has been extended to include multi-purpose type washer/disinfectors that are able to empty, flush and disinfect bed pans and urine bottles.

The terms 'normative' and 'informative' have been used in this Standard to define the application of the appendix to which they apply. A 'normative' appendix is an integral part of a Standard, whereas an 'informative' appendix is only for information and guidance.

Standards Australia invites comment on this Interim Standard from persons and organizations concerned with the subject of the Standard. The date of expiry of comment is two years after publication, at which time this Interim Australian Standard will be confirmed, withdrawn or revised in the light of public comment.

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STANDARDS AUSTRALIA

Interim Australian Standard Batch-type washer/disinfectors for health care facilities

SECTION 1 SCOPE AND GENERAL

1.1 SCOPE

This Interim Standard specifies requirements for batch-type washers and washer/disinfectors that accommodate, empty, flush, wash, disinfect by thermal means (or a disinfectant) and either partially or totally dry surgical instruments, utensils, human waste receptacles and anaesthetic equipment (including tubing) in health care facilities.

NOTES:

- 1 AS 2437 applies to machines that process only a single bed pan or no more than three urine bottles at the one time.
- 2 Machines complying with this Standard may be either single-purpose or multi-purpose types, and may be supplied either with or without a disinfecting stage or a drying stage. Many of the principles set out herein can be applied to larger machines such as trolley washing machines.
- 3 When operating multi-purpose types, care must be taken to ensure the correct cycle is selected.
- 4 Corrugated tubing and rebreathing bags may require additional drying. There is an inherent difficulty in drying these items, because of the tendency for droplets to remain in troughs of corrugations. The use of drying cabinets enables drying times of washer/disinfectors to be reduced, so that urgently needed equipment that is easily dried may be returned to service soon after it has dried without being subjected to the extended times that are required to dry corrugated tubing and rebreathing bags.
- 5 It is not intended that machines complying with this Standard treat single-use equipment, endoscopes, mechanical equipment or electrical components.
- 6 Guidance on information that should be supplied with enquiries and orders is given in Appendix A.
- 7 AS 4187 gives guidance on the use of washer/disinfectors.
- 8 Standards for machines that wash, sterilize or dry medical equipment in health care facilities are listed in Appendix B.

1.2 INNOVATION

Any use of new or unusual materials or methods to achieve the intent of this Standard is encouraged. Manufacturers employing innovative materials or methods shall show documented third-party proof that the innovation is not inferior to that of the intent of this Standard.

1.3 REFERENCED DOCUMENTS

The following documents are referred to in this Standard:

AS	
1081	Acoustics—Measurement of airborne noise emitted by rotating electrical machinery
1081.2	Part 2: Survey method
1192	Electroplated coatings—Nickel and chromium