

	<b>Technical Information</b>	<b>730-172-EN</b>		<b>V03</b>
	<b>Replacement for all autoclave tapes, especially for VHPO sterilization processes</b>	Created	17.04.2020	UK
		Changed	05.08.2021	KP
		Checked	05.08.2021	UK
		Released	05.08.2021	UK
<b>File no.: 5.3</b>				

GKE customers request more often to get autoclave tape for VHPO sterilization processes. As you know, in those processes normal paper autoclave tape is not accepted because paper cannot be used inside of VHPO sterilization processes. GKE has no own production equipment to make autoclave tape. Therefore we tried to purchase VHPO autoclave tape on the market which must be made from plastic materials. The tape we have found until now has very bad adhesion characteristics and dubious indicator specifications and is very expensive.

As an alternative we recommend use normal packaging tape from plastic with good adhesion characteristics. Since each package requires a type 1 indicator supplied on the autoclave tape, we recommend to use our documentation labels for hydrogen peroxide with the advantage that automatically the required documentation information of batch number, production and expiry date, person in charge, are written on the label. Also this label is double self-adhesive and after opening the package, it can be transferred to the patient's documentation.

For those hospitals which have already installed barcode systems using printers, GKE has available double self-adhesive labels on rolls for all sterilization processes including a VHPO version made from plastic with VHPO type 1 indicator doing the same job.

Using the combination of normal packing tape and the GKE indicator labels 100% replaces the VHPO autoclave tape and is by far less expensive than the quite expensive VHPO autoclave tape currently available on the market.

GKE will offer in the future a durable packing tape made from plastic material, which is temperature stable and can be used in all sterilization processes.

We know in CSSDs the use of autoclave tape is a long historical procedure and it is quite often difficult to convince the CSSD managers to change these historical procedures. Since VHPO processes are fairly new processes, we hope you can convince your customers to make this change because it has advantages not using autoclave tape, since autoclave tape has no logistic information available and is by far more expensive than the procedure with GKE indicator labels mentioned above.