

<i>gke</i> – Technical Information	TI 730-059-EN	
Usage of <i>gke</i>- test devices in small sterilizers with integrated steam production in the sterilization chamber	Version 01	
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In the above mentioned sterilizers steam is produced in the sterilization chamber while water heats up on the bottom of the sterilizer and evaporates. If all water is evaporated, the sterilizer bottom will become dry. Since no more steam will be produced, the required temperature drops down and the sterilizer tries to adjust the temperature by increasing the heat energy. In addition, the electrical heating system underneath the sterilization chamber may be used in some small sterilizers for the drying process after sterilization. Therefore temperatures of 160 – 200 °C can be reached at the bottom of the sterilizer.

The *gke* test devices (Compact-PCDs = process challenge device) are designed to cope with temperatures up to 160°C but can't withstand higher temperatures so that the test devices, which are placed on the bottom of the sterilizer can be damaged. (The outer plastic case may melt.)

To avoid this problem, please check:

1. if enough water is filled in the sterilizer
2. that the test devices are not placed right at the bottom of the sterilizer, but about 3-5 cm on a tray or rack.