

Guideline for the installation of Autoclave



**Office of Laboratory Safety and Environmental Health
(OLSEH)**

Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bangalore

Author-Md Masoodur Rahman (Biosafety Officer)

Guideline for the installation of autoclave:

For a microbiological laboratory, a separate “Hot room” must be maintained, and the below conditions apply.

1. Enclosure room for autoclave (for above 30 liters capacity):

- a. The hot room or autoclave room should be of concrete enclosed room.
- b. The hot room should be separated from main laboratory and seating place.
- c. The autoclave room should have enough space to keep at least three categories of dustbins inside room.
- d. Any types of wooden materials are not allowed to use for autoclave room.
- e. Wooden doors /wooden windows are not allowed for autoclave room.
- f. The autoclave room should have laboratory slabs.
- g. All firefighting equipment must be available in hot room.

2. Maintenance access:

As per standard BS 2646 Part2 states that autoclaves should have a one-meter clear space all round to allow for service access, but we recognize that this can be difficult to provide so we would recommend a minimum of 500mm clear space all round.

3. Heat emission:

The environment shall not exceed an ambient temperature of 40°C and a relative humidity of 85% respectively.

4. Steam emission:

- a. The hot room should be separated from main laboratory and seating place.
- b. The room should have forced ventilation system.

5. Floor loading:

Particularly in the case of refurbishment of an older building it will be necessary to consider the strength of the floor on which the autoclave is located (in case of 300 litre capacity of autoclave)

6. Drainage system:

- a. The drainage system from the autoclave should prevent dispersion of splashes and steam into the working area. The discharge should be directed to a sealed discharge system; the system should lead by direct connection to a building drain.
- b. An open tin-dish is not suitable for the discharge line of a laboratory autoclave which is to be used for a MAKE-SAFE processes.
- c. There should have set up of sink/washbasin.