
Safe Use of Mixing Apparatus

The operation of blenders, sonicators, homogenizers, shaking incubators, tissue grinders and mixers can generate significant amounts of infectious aerosols. Procedures for safe operation of aerosol-generating equipment include:

- Select equipment designed to prevent the release of aerosols – for example, cup horn sonicators allow processing of sealed vials or tubes;
- Use the equipment inside a primary containment enclosure. A biological safety cabinet can be used if airflow patterns will not be disrupted;
- Check the condition of gaskets, caps and containers before use;
- Allow at least one minute for aerosols to settle before opening or removing covers; open them in a biological safety cabinet if possible;
- Disinfect contaminated surfaces after use.