

AS/NZS 3825:1998

AS/NZS 3825

Australian/New Zealand Standard™

**Procedures and devices for the
removal and disposal of scalpel
blades from scalpel handles**

STANDARDS AUSTRALIA

STANDARDS NEW ZEALAND



Documents

Document Sharing Hub

AS/NZS 3825:1998

This Joint Australian/New Zealand Standard was prepared by Joint Technical Committee HE/1, Medical, Diagnostic and Surgical Products. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 1 May 1998 and on behalf of the Council of Standards New Zealand on 18 May 1998. It was published on 5 July 1998.

The following interests are represented on Committee HE/1:

Australian Confederation of Operating Room Nurses
 Australian Dental Association
 Australian Dental Industry Association
 Australian Infection Control Association
 Australian Medical Association
 Australian Nursing Federation
 Australian Society for Microbiology
 Department of Environment and Natural Resources S.A.
 Department of Human Services, Vic.
 Environment Management Industry Association of Australia
 Federation of Sterilizing Research and Advisory Councils of Australia
 Health Department, W.A.
 Hospital Supplies of Australia
 Medical Industry Association of Australia
 National Occupational Health & Safety Commission
 New Zealand Chemical Industry Council
 New Zealand Commercial Waste Disposal Companies
 New Zealand Nurses Organization
 N.S.W. Health Department
 N.S.W. Supply Service
 Queensland Health
 Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia
 South Australian Health Commission
 Victorian Waste Management Association

Review of Standards. To keep abreast of progress in industry, Joint Australian/New Zealand Standards are subject to periodic review and are kept up to date by the issue of amendments or new editions as necessary. It is important therefore that Standards users ensure that they are in possession of the latest edition, and any amendments thereto.

Full details of all Joint Standards and related publications will be found in the Standards Australia and Standards New Zealand Catalogue of Publications; this information is supplemented each month by the magazines 'The Australian Standard' and 'Standards New Zealand', which subscribing members receive, and which give details of new publications, new editions and amendments, and of withdrawn Standards.

Suggestions for improvements to Joint Standards, addressed to the head office of either Standards Australia or Standards New Zealand, are welcomed. Notification of any inaccuracy or ambiguity found in a Joint Australian/New Zealand Standard should be made without delay in order that the matter may be investigated and appropriate action taken.

AS/NZS 3825:1998

Australian/New Zealand Standard™

**Procedures and devices for the
removal and disposal of scalpel
blades from scalpel handles**

First published as AS/NZS 3825:1998.

Published jointly by:

Standards Australia
1 The Crescent,
Homebush NSW 2140 Australia

Standards New Zealand
Level 10, Radio New Zealand House,
155 The Terrace,
Wellington 6001 New Zealand

PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Joint Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand Subcommittee HE/1/3, Safe Disposal of Sharps and Clinical Wastes, under the responsibility of Committee HE/1, Medical, Diagnostic and Surgical Products.

The objective of this Standard is to establish the performance characteristics of devices and practices which are used to remove scalpel blades and similar instruments, e.g. stitch cutters, from scalpel handles after use on patients, and in areas outside the medical profession, e.g. schools, architects offices and graphic design studios, as well as the safe disposal of blades in order to reduce the incidence of injury or transmission of infection to the user.

CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
1 SCOPE	3
2 REFERENCED DOCUMENTS	3
3 DEFINITIONS	3
4 REQUIREMENTS FOR SCALPEL BLADE REMOVAL DEVICES	4
5 PROCEDURES FOR THE REMOVAL AND DISPOSAL OF SCALPEL BLADES	5

© Copyright — STANDARDS AUSTRALIA/STANDARDS NEW ZEALAND

Users of Standards are reminded that copyright subsists in all Standards Australia and Standards New Zealand publications and software. Except where the Copyright Act allows and except where provided for below no publications or software produced by Standards Australia or Standards New Zealand may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system in any form or transmitted by any means without prior permission in writing from Standards Australia or Standards New Zealand. Permission may be conditional on an appropriate royalty payment. Australian requests for permission and information on commercial software royalties should be directed to the head office of Standards Australia. New Zealand requests should be directed to Standards New Zealand.

Up to 10 percent of the technical content pages of a Standard may be copied for use exclusively in-house by purchasers of the Standard without payment of a royalty or advice to Standards Australia or Standards New Zealand.

Inclusion of copyright material in computer software programs is also permitted without royalty payment provided such programs are used exclusively in-house by the creators of the programs.

Care should be taken to ensure that material used is from the current edition of the Standard and that it is updated whenever the Standard is amended or revised. The number and date of the Standard should therefore be clearly identified.

The use of material in print form or in computer software programs to be used commercially, with or without payment, or in commercial contracts is subject to the payment of a royalty. This policy may be varied by Standards Australia or Standards New Zealand at any time.