

## Bake Out Procedure for Xpress and EasyPrep Teflon® Vessel Liners

The following bake out procedure can be used to remove residual acid vapors and other trapped gases from the Teflon® PFA and TFM vessel liner material. Trapped gases can potentially cause uneven heating between new and used liners.

The bake out procedure can be used to remove residual NO<sub>x</sub> gases from liners following digestion with HNO<sub>3</sub> that may interfere in subsequent runs. This procedure has been successfully used to remove sulfur contamination from the Teflon liners following digestion of samples with high sulfur content.

### Procedure:

1. Place the liners in an air oven at room temperature. Lay the liners on their side.
2. Set the oven temperature to 180 °C and let the liners warm slowly.
3. Leave the liners in the oven for a minimum of 4 hours. Leaving them in overnight is acceptable.
4. After the heating time is complete, turn the oven off and let the liners cool slowly back to room temperature inside the oven.
5. Remove the liners from the oven. The liners should be white in color, comparable to new liners with no acid history.

### Notes:

1. Do not exceed an oven temperature of 200 °C.
2. Do not bake out EasyPrep vessel covers or Xpress vessel caps.
3. It is important to let the liners cool slowly back to room temperature following the bake out procedure. Removing the hot Teflon liners can lead to blistering on the inside if they cool too rapidly.