International Standard

ISO 18562-3

Second edition
2024-03

Biocompatibility evaluation of breathing gas pathways in healthcare applications —

Part 3: Tests for emissions of volatile organic substances

Évaluation de la biocompatibilité des chemins de gaz respiratoire utilisés dans le domaine de la santé —

Partie 3: Essais concernant les émissions de substances organiques volatiles

Reference number
ISO 18562-3:2024(en)

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Published in Switzerland

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Foreword

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The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular, the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO document should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see www.iso.org/directives).

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This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 121, *Anaesthetic and respiratory equipment*, Subcommittee SC 3, *Lung ventilators and related equipment,* in collaboration with the European Committee for Standardization (CEN) Technical Committee CEN/TC 215, *Respiratory and anaesthetic equipment*, in accordance with the Agreement on technical cooperation between ISO and CEN (Vienna Agreement).

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 18562-3:2017), which has been technically revised.

The main changes are as follows:

— added informative mapping annexes to relevant regulatory requirements;

— clarified terms and definitions used in the document;

— broke the term *VOC* (now *VOS*) into parts based on boiling point.

A list of all parts of the ISO 18562 series can be found on the ISO website.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at www.iso.org/members.html.

Introduction

This document is intended to protect *patients* connected to *medical devices* from excessive amounts of *volatile organic substances* that arise from within the *gas pathways* of those *medical devices*. This document represents the application of the best-known science by addressing the *risks* from potentially hazardous *volatile organic substances* being conveyed to the *patient* by the gas stream.

This document is intended to cover the biological evaluation of *gas pathways* of *medical devices* within a *risk management process*, as part of the overall *medical device* evaluation and development. This approach combines the review and evaluation of existing data from all sources with, where necessary, the selection and application of additional tests.

In general, the ISO 10993 series is intended to cover the biological evaluation of *medical devices*. However, the ISO 10993 series does not appropriately address the biological evaluation of the *gas pathways* of *medical devices*. For example, the ISO 10993 series does not provide guidance how to evaluate the presence of *VOSs*.

It is not within the scope of this document to address contamination arising from the source of the breathing gases entering such *medical devices*, but rather only address the potential contamination generated from within the *medical device* itself. This contamination might be from the original manufacturing *process* or generated by the *medical device* itself during use.

This document is concerned with *volatile organic substances* that could be conveyed to the *patient* by the breathing gases. *Volatile organic substances* can have health effects ranging from unpleasant odour and irritation of the mucous membranes to possible long-term effects on the nervous system. It is accepted that there is no point in setting levels that are lower than those found in air that people might breathe every day.

The tests for the presence of *volatile organic substances* generated by respiratory *medical devices* are based on advanced laboratory practice and require specialist training and equipment to generate meaningful results.

The methods to determine the acceptable levels of contamination are contained in ISO 18562-1.

This document has been prepared in consideration of:

— the *Essential Principles of Safety and Performance of Medical Devices and IVD Medical Devices,* IMDRF/GRRP WG/N47:2018[7] as indicated in Annex B;

— the *Labelling Principles for Medical Devices and IVD Medical Devices,* IMDRF/GRRP WG/N52:2019[8] as indicated in Annex B;

— the the *essential principles of safety and performance* according to ISO 16142-1:2016 as indicated in Annex C; and

— the general safety and performance requirements of a *medical device* according to regulation (EU) 2017/745[9].

In this document, the following verbal forms are used:

— “shall” indicates a requirement;

— “should” indicates a recommendation;

— “may” indicates a permission;

— "can" indicates a possibility or capability.

Biocompatibility evaluation of breathing gas pathways in healthcare applications —

Part 3: Tests for emissions of volatile organic substances

1 Scope

This document specifies tests for the emissions of *volatile organic substances* from the *gas pathways* of a *medical device*, its parts or *accessories,* which are intended to provide respiratory care or supply substances via the respiratory tract to a *patient* in all environments. The tests of this document are intended to quantify emissions of *volatile organic substances* that are added to the respirable gas stream by the materials of the *gas pathway*. This document establishes acceptance criteria for these tests.

NOTE Gaseous emission of *volatile organic substances* includes emissions of *volatile organic compounds*, *semi-volatile organic compounds* and *very volatile organic compounds*.

This document addresses potential contamination of the gas stream arising from the *gas pathways* of *medical devices* or *accessories*, which is then conducted to the *patient*.

This document applies over the *expected lifetime* of the *medical device* in *normal use* and takes into account the effects of any intended *processing*.

This document does not address biological evaluation of the surfaces of *gas pathways* that are in direct contact with the *patient*. The requirements for direct contact surfaces are found in the ISO 10993 series.

Medical devices, parts or *accessories* containing *gas pathways* that are addressed by this document include, but are not limited to, ventilators, anaesthesia workstations (including gas mixers), breathing systems, oxygen conserving devices, oxygen concentrators, nebulizers, low-pressure hose assemblies, humidifiers, heat and moisture exchangers, respiratory gas monitors, respiration monitors, masks, medical respiratory personal protective equipment, mouth pieces, resuscitators, breathing tubes, breathing systems filters, Y-pieces and any breathing *accessories* intended to be used with such devices. The enclosed chamber of an incubator, including the mattress, and the inner surface of an oxygen hood are considered to be *gas pathways* and are also addressed by this document.

This document does not address contamination already present in the gas supplied from the gas sources while *medical devices* are in *normal use*.

EXAMPLE Contamination arriving at the *medical device* from gas sources such as *medical gas pipeline systems* (including the non-return valves in the pipeline outlets), outlets of pressure regulators connected or integral to a medical gas cylinder or room air taken into the *medical device* is not addressed by ISO 18562 series.

This document is intended to be read in conjunction with ISO 18562-1.

2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 16000-3:2022, *Indoor air — Part 3: Determination of formaldehyde and other carbonyl compounds in indoor and test chamber air — Active sampling method*

ISO 16000-4:2011, *Indoor air — Part 4: Determination of formaldehyde — Diffusive sampling method*

ISO 16000-6:2021, *Indoor air — Part 6: Determination of organic compounds (VVOC, VOC, SVOC) in indoor and test chamber air by active sampling on sorbent tubes, thermal desorption and gas chromatography using MS or MS FID*

ISO 18562-1:2024, *Biocompatibility evaluation of breathing gas pathways in healthcare applications — Part 1: Evaluation and testing within a risk management process*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in ISO 18562-1:2024 and the following apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminology databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

— ISO Online browsing platform: available at https://www.iso.org/obp

— IEC Electropedia: available at https://www.electropedia.org/

NOTE For convenience, an alphabetized index of all defined terms and their sources used in this document are given in Annex D.

3.1
rated
<value> term referring to a value assigned by the *manufacturer* for a specified operating condition

[SOURCE: IEC 60601-1:2005+AMD1:2012+AMD2:2020, 3.97]

3.2
target compounds
compounds that are believed likely to be present and therefore need to be deliberately looked for

3.3
thermal stability
condition under which the temperature of an object does not change by more than 2 °C over a period of 1 h

[SOURCE: IEC 60601-1:2005+AMD1:2012+AMD2:2020, 3.125, modified — “increase” has been changed to “change”.]

4 General principles

All *gas pathways* of *medical devices* or *accessories* shall be evaluated using the strategy detailed in ISO 18562-1:2024.

The fundamental consideration in assessing a substance is to determine the *inhalation dose* of this substance to the *patient.*

Limits for toxicological purposes are most often quoted in µg/kg body mass/d (*tolerable intake*). Limits for environmental purposes, and the quantity that is measured by test laboratories, are usually quoted as concentrations in µg/m^3. The *inhalation dose* depends on the concentration of the substance (in µg/m^3) multiplied by the volume inhaled by the *patient* in a day (in m^3/d).

Standard daily breathing volumes are found in ISO 18562-1:2024, 6.2.

5 *Volatile organic substance* emissions

NOTE There is guidance or rationale for this Clause contained in Clause A.2.