

Microbiology of the food chain - Horizontal method for the immunoenzymatic detection of staphylococcal enterotoxins in foodstuffs (ISO 19020:2017)

## EESTI STANDARDI EESSÕNA

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English Version

**Microbiology of the food chain - Horizontal method for the  
immunoenzymatic detection of staphylococcal  
enterotoxins in foodstuffs (ISO 19020:2017)**

Microbiologie de la chaîne alimentaire - Méthode  
horizontale de détection des entérotoxines  
staphylococciques par test immuno-enzymatique dans  
les aliments (ISO 19020:2017)

Mikrobiologie der Lebensmittelkette - Horizontales  
Verfahren für den immunenzymatischen Nachweis von  
Staphylokokken-Enterotoxinen in Lebensmitteln (ISO  
19020:2017)

This European Standard was approved by CEN on 14 May 2017.

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COMITÉ EUROPÉEN DE NORMALISATION  
EUROPÄISCHES KOMITEE FÜR NORMUNG

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## European foreword

This document (EN ISO 19020:2017) has been prepared CEN/TC 275 “Food analysis - Horizontal methods” the secretariat of which is held by DIN, in collaboration with Technical Committee ISO/TC 34 “Food products”.

This European Standard shall be given the status of a national standard, either by publication of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by December 2017, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by December 2017.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. CEN shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

This document has been prepared under a mandate given to CEN by the European Commission and the European Free Trade Association.

According to the CEN-CENELEC Internal Regulations, the national standards organizations of the following countries are bound to implement this European Standard: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey and the United Kingdom.

### Endorsement notice

The text of ISO 19020:2017 has been approved by CEN as EN ISO 19020:2017 without any modification.

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## Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

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 documents 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](http://www.iso.org/directives)).

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This document was prepared by the European Committee for Standardization (CEN) Technical Committee CEN/TC 275, *Food Analysis — Horizontal methods*, in collaboration with ISO Technical Committee TC 34, *Food products*, Subcommittee SC 9, *Microbiology*, in accordance with the agreement on technical cooperation between ISO and CEN (Vienna Agreement).

## Introduction

Staphylococcal enterotoxins (SEs) are proteins that can be produced in foods, by certain strains of the coagulase positive staphylococci (CPS), mainly *Staphylococcus aureus*. These SEs are heat and acid stable toxins that cause nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain and diarrhoea when ingested. Due to their stability SEs might still be present even when coagulase positive staphylococci cannot be detected. SEs consist of a family of more than 20 structurally-related globular monomeric proteins with molecular weights of 19 kDa to 30 kDa.[1] These proteins are relatively stable under changing environmental conditions, such as heat treatment, freezing and change in pH; moreover, they are resistant to proteolytic digestion. Typically, and depending on the sensitivity of affected individuals, nanogram (ng) amounts of enterotoxin can cause intoxication with the symptoms described above. Due to the influence of SEs on human health, the European Union has adopted legislation in order to increase consumer protection by defining microbiological criteria for foodstuffs, such as CPS enumeration and detection of SEs.[2]

Several methods have been developed for the detection and/or quantification of SEs. Some of these methods are based on enzyme immunoassay (EIA). Other methods are based on the chemical analysis using liquid chromatography with tandem mass spectrometry (LC-MS/MS) for the detection and quantification of SEs. As these latter methods are currently under development, EIA methods have been chosen as the starting point for standardization of a detection method for SEs.

The aim is to detect SEs using commercially available test kits. This document describes the protocol for the extraction of SEs from food samples. Moreover, criteria for the performance of the kits have been evaluated on five types of food matrices before use based on the criteria given in this document.

Response rates of different staphylococcal food poisoning outbreaks were modelled as a function of ingested doses.[3] For this purpose, data from the literature as well as data from the European Union Reference Laboratory for CPS were used.

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) benchmark dose methodology was applied to this data set and helped to establish the benchmark dose (BMD).[4] The BMD is defined as the dose of a hazard (staphylococcal enterotoxin) likely to trigger health symptoms in a given percentage of the exposed population. The BMD lower limit (BMDL) is the lower 95 % (or 90 %) confidence interval of the BMD. This value was used to set up the acceptable value for the limit of detection 50 (LOD<sub>50</sub>) of the various commercially available SE detection kits.

# Microbiology of the food chain — Horizontal method for the immunoenzymatic detection of staphylococcal enterotoxins in foodstuffs

## 1 Scope

This document specifies a screening method for the detection of staphylococcal enterotoxins SEA, SEB, SECs, SED and SEE in foodstuffs. It consists of two main steps: a) extraction followed by a concentration based on dialysis principle; and b) an immunoenzymatic detection using commercially available detection kits.

This document is applicable to the screening of staphylococcal enterotoxins SEA to SEE in products intended for human consumption.

Other staphylococcal enterotoxins such as types SEG, SEH, SEI, SER, SES and SET can also cause illness. Due to the lack of commercially available detection kits, this document is applicable only to types SEA to SEE, but may apply to other types of toxins, subject to validation of the method.

## 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 3696, *Water for analytical laboratory use — Specification and test methods*

ISO 7218, *Microbiology of food and animal feeding stuffs — General requirements and guidance for microbiological examinations*

## 3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

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

- IEC Electropedia: available at <http://www.electropedia.org/>
- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <http://www.iso.org/obp>

### 3.1

#### **staphylococcal enterotoxin A, B, C, D, E**

#### **SEA, SEB, SEC, SED, SEE**

exoprotein SEA, SEB, SEC, SED and SEE produced by enterotoxigenic strains of coagulase positive staphylococci, mainly *Staphylococcus aureus* with a molecular weight ranging from 19 kDa to 30 kDa

### 3.2

#### **specificity**

#### **SP**

number of samples found to be negative divided by the total number of blank samples tested