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Cosmetics — Microbiology — Evaluation of the antimicrobial protection of a cosmetic product

Cosmétiques — Microbiologie — Évaluation de la protection antimicrobienne d'un produit cosmétique

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Contents

Foreword iii

Introduction v

1 Scope 1
1.1 Preservation efficacy test 1
1.2 Procedure for evaluating the antimicrobial protection of the cosmetic product 1

2 Normative references 2

3 Terms and definitions 2

4 Principle 3

5 Preservation efficacy test 3
5.1 General 3
5.2 Materials, apparatus, reagents and culture media 3
5.2.1 Materials - Apparatus 3
5.2.2 Diluents, neutralisers and culture media 4
5.3 Microbial strains 6
5.4 Preparation and enumeration of inocula 7
5.4.1 General 7
5.4.2 Preparation of bacterial and *Candida albicans* suspensions 7
5.4.3 Preparation of *Aspergillus brasiliensis* (previously *A. niger)* spores suspension 8
5.5 Demonstration of the neutraliser efficacy 9
5.5.1 Principle 9
5.5.2 Procedure 9
5.5.3 Calculations 9
5.5.4 Interpretation of results and conclusion on neutraliser efficacy 10
5.6 Determination of the preservation efficacy of the formulation 10
5.6.1 Procedure 10
5.6.2 Counting of colonies 11
5.6.3 Calculations 12
5.7 Interpretation of test results and conclusions 13
5.7.1 General case (the efficacy of neutraliser is demonstrated for all strains) 13
5.7.2 Case of formulations for which the efficacy of neutraliser is not demonstrated for some strains 13
5.8 Test report 14

6 Overall evaluation of the antimicrobial protection of the cosmetic product 15
6.1 General 15
6.2 Case 1 – The Preservation Efficacy test has been performed on the formulation 15
6.3 Case 2 - The Preservation Efficacy test has not been performed on the formulation 15

Annex A (normative) **Decision diagram** 17

Annex B (normative) **Evaluation criteria for the Preservation Efficacy Test (5.7)** 18

Annex C (informative) **Examples of neutralisers for the antimicrobial activity of preservatives and washing liquids** 19

Annex D (informative) **Packaging Characteristics** 20

Bibliography 21

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.

International Standards are drafted in accordance with the rules given in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

The main task of technical committees is to prepare International Standards. Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the member bodies casting a vote.

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

ISO 11930 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 217, *Cosmetics*.

This corrected version of ISO 11930:2012 incorporates the following correction:

— in Table B.1, in the Criteria A row, final column (T28), the words "and NI" have been added.

Introduction

This International Standard is to be used in the overall evaluation of the antimicrobial protection of a cosmetic product.

The antimicrobial protection of a product can come from many sources:

— chemical preservation;

— inherent characteristics of the formulation;

— package design;

— manufacturing process.

This International Standard defines a series of steps to be taken when assessing the overall antimicrobial protection of a cosmetic product. A reference method for a preservation efficacy test (challenge test) along with evaluation criteria is also described in this International Standard.

The data generated by the risk assessment (see ISO 29621) or by the preservation efficacy test, or both, are to be used to establish the level of antimicrobial protection required to minimize user risk.

Cosmetics — Microbiology — Evaluation of the antimicrobial protection of a cosmetic product

1 Scope

1.1 General

This International Standard comprises:

— a preservation efficacy test;

— a procedure for evaluating the overall antimicrobial protection of a cosmetic product which is not considered low risk, based on a risk assessment described in ISO 29621.

This International Standard provides a procedure for the interpretation of data generated by the preservation efficacy test or by the microbiological risk assessment, or both.

1.2 Preservation efficacy test

This test is a reference method that is to be used to evaluate the preservation of a cosmetic formulation. It applies to cosmetic products in the market place.

This test is not required for those cosmetic products for which the microbiological risk has been determined to be low (see Annex A and ISO 29621).

This test is primarily designed for water-soluble or water-miscible cosmetic products and can require adaptation, for example to test products in which water is the internal phase. The test described in this International Standard involves, for each test micro-organism, placing the formulation in contact with a calibrated inoculum, and then measuring the changes in the micro-organism count at set time intervals for a set period and at a set temperature.

NOTE This test can be used as a guideline to develop an in-house method during the development cycle of cosmetic products. In this case, the test can be modified or extended, or both, for example to make allowance for prior data and different variables (microbial strains, media, incubation conditions exposure time, etc.). Compliance criteria can be adapted to specific objectives. During the development stage of cosmetic products, other methods, where relevant, can be used to determine the preservation efficacy of formulations.

1.3 Procedure for evaluating the antimicrobial protection of the cosmetic product

This procedure is based on careful consideration of the following points.

— Results of the preservation efficacy test. Not all cosmetic products will require a preservation efficacy test (see Annex A and ISO 29621).

— Formulation characteristics and data provided by the microbiological risk assessment (see ISO 29621). The analysis of the microbiological risk assessment is based on an overall approach. In particular, it integrates variables such as characteristics and composition of the formulation, its production conditions, the characteristics of the packaging in which the formulation will be delivered to the market place, recommendations for use of the cosmetic product and, when relevant, the area of application and the targeted user population (see Annex D).

2 Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application 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 16212, *Cosmetics — Microbiology — Enumeration of yeast and mould*

ISO 18415, *Cosmetics — Microbiology — Detection of specified and non-specified microorganisms*

ISO 21148, *Cosmetics — Microbiology — General instructions for microbiological examination*

ISO 21149, *Cosmetics — Microbiology — Enumeration and detection of aerobic mesophilic bacteria*

ISO 22716, *Cosmetics — Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) — Guidelines on Good Manufacturing Practices*

ISO 29621, *Cosmetics — Microbiology — Guidelines for the risk assessment and identification of microbiologically low-risk products*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in ISO 21148 and the following apply.

3.1
cosmetic formulation
preparation of raw materials with a qualitatively and quantitatively defined composition

3.2
cosmetic product
finished cosmetic product that has undergone all stages of production, including packaging in its final container for shipment

3.3
antimicrobial protection of a cosmetic product
ability of a cosmetic product to overcome microbial contamination that might present a potential risk to the user

NOTE The overall antimicrobial protection includes preservation of the formulation, the specific manufacturing process and protective packaging.

3.4
preservation of a cosmetic formulation
set of means used to avoid microbial proliferation in a cosmetic formulation

EXAMPLES Preservatives, multifunctional compounds, hostile raw materials, extreme pH, low water-activity values.

3.5
reference method
method applied by interested parties to assess a product on the market and in case of dispute

3.6
development method
in-house method
method used during the development stage of a product before the product is put on the market