

**Sterile single-use syringes, with or without needle,  
for insulin**

Sterile single-use syringes, with or without needle, for  
insulin

## EESTI STANDARDI EESSÕNA

## NATIONAL FOREWORD

<p>Käesolev Eesti standard EVS-EN ISO 8537:2008 sisaldab Euroopa standardi EN ISO 8537:2008 ingliskeelset teksti.</p> <p>Standard on kinnitatud Eesti Standardikeskuse 18.08.2008 käskkirjaga ja jõustub sellekohase teate avaldamisel EVS Teatajas.</p> <p>Euroopa standardimisorganisatsioonide poolt rahvuslikele liikmetele Euroopa standardi teksti kättesaadavaks tegemise kuupäev on 01.07.2008.</p> <p>Standard on kättesaadav Eesti standardiorganisatsioonist.</p>	<p>This Estonian standard EVS-EN ISO 8537:2008 consists of the English text of the European standard EN ISO 8537:2008.</p> <p>This standard is ratified with the order of Estonian Centre for Standardisation dated 18.08.2008 and is endorsed with the notification published in the official bulletin of the Estonian national standardisation organisation.</p> <p>Date of Availability of the European standard text 01.07.2008.</p> <p>The standard is available from Estonian standardisation organisation.</p>
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**Võtmesõnad:** insuliin, meditsiiniaparatuur, steriliseerimine, süstlad, tehnilised andmed, testimine

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EUROPEAN STANDARD

EN ISO 8537

NORME EUROPÉENNE

EUROPÄISCHE NORM

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ICS 11.040.25

Supersedes EN ISO 8537:1994

English Version

**Sterile single-use syringes, with or without needle, for insulin  
(ISO 8537:2007)**

Seringues à insuline, stériles, non réutilisables, avec ou  
sans aiguille (ISO 8537:2007)

Sterile Insulin-Einmalspritzen mit oder ohne Kanüle (ISO  
8537:2007)

This European Standard was approved by CEN on 15 June 2008.

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EUROPEAN COMMITTEE FOR STANDARDIZATION  
COMITÉ EUROPÉEN DE NORMALISATION  
EUROPÄISCHES KOMITEE FÜR NORMUNG

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## Foreword

The text of ISO 8537:2007 has been prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 84 "Medical devices for injections" of the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and has been taken over as EN ISO 8537:2008 by Technical Committee CEN/TC 205 "Non-active medical devices" the secretariat of which is held by DIN.

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 January 2009, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by January 2009.

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

This document supersedes EN ISO 8537:1994.

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### Endorsement notice

The text of ISO 8537:2007 has been approved by CEN as a EN ISO 8537:2008 without any modification.

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## Introduction

This International Standard deals with products primarily intended for use with humans and provides performance requirements, but permits some variations of design and of the methods of packaging and sterilization by individual manufacturers.

Materials to be used for the construction and lubrication of sterile syringes and needles for single use are not specified as their selection will depend to some extent upon the design, process of manufacture and sterilization method employed by individual manufacturers.

Syringes and needles should be manufactured and sterilized in accordance with recognized national or international codes of good manufacturing practice for medical devices, and should be free from defects affecting appearance, safety and serviceability for their intended use.

Certain grades of polypropylene, polystyrene and styrene/acrylonitrile copolymer have been extensively used for the barrels of sterile syringes for single use. A high quality natural rubber composition is frequently used for the piston, although other materials such as silicone rubber are also used, the surface of the piston being lubricated with polydimethylsiloxane. For 2 ml syringes, high density polyethylene is frequently used for the seal of the two-component design of syringe in combination with a polypropylene barrel containing a fatty acid amide slip additive.

When selecting materials, make the following considerations:

- Clarity of barrel: Materials used in the construction of the wall of the syringe barrel should be of sufficient clarity to enable dosages to be read without difficulty and for air bubbles to be seen.
- Compatibility with insulin preparations: The materials of syringes and needles (including lubricant) and packaging should not, in their final form after sterilization and under conditions of normal use, detrimentally affect the efficacy, safety and acceptability of insulin preparations: neither should the construction materials themselves be affected physically or chemically by insulin preparations.
- Biocompatibility: The materials should not cause the syringes and needles to yield, under conditions of normal use, significant amounts of toxic substances and should permit them to satisfy the appropriate national requirements or regulations for freedom from pyrogenic materials and abnormal toxicity. For testing these properties, an extract as specified in Annex H may be used.

It is strongly recommended that regulatory authorities, pharmacopoeia and relevant trade associations should recognize the need for further testing, especially for incompatibility between the insulins and syringes when they are in contact for prolonged periods.

In some countries national regulations are legally binding and the requirements may take precedence over this International Standard.

This International Standard describes syringes with or without needles for use with 40 units of insulin/ml (U-40) and 100 units of insulin/ml (U-100). It is recommended that syringes graduated for only one strength of insulin be used in each country to avoid accidents. For those countries using more than one strength of insulin, the importance of having individual syringes appropriately graduated for only one strength of insulin as specified in this International Standard is emphasized. Serious problems may result if a syringe is used with a strength of insulin for which it is not designed. If the syringe is used for mixing different types of insulin, it is strongly recommended that the procedure is performed in the same order each time.

# Sterile single-use syringes, with or without needle, for insulin

## 1 Scope

This International Standard specifies requirements and test methods for sterile syringes, with or without needles, solely for the injection of insulin. The syringes are single-use only, primarily for use in humans. It covers syringes for use with 40 units of insulin/ml (U-40) and 100 units of insulin/ml (U-100).

Sterile syringes specified in this International Standard are intended for use soon after filling as they are not suitable for containing insulin over extended periods of time.

## 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 594-1:1986, *Conical fittings with a 6 % (Luer) taper for syringes, needles and certain other medical equipment — Part 1: General requirements*

ISO 7864:1993, *Sterile hypodermic needles for single use*

ISO 9626, *Stainless steel needle tubing for manufacture of medical devices*

## 3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document the following terms and definitions apply. The nomenclature of some components of syringes for single use is given in Figure 1.

### 3.1

#### **graduated capacity**

volume of water at  $20\text{ °C} \pm 3\text{ °C}$  or  $27\text{ °C} \pm 3\text{ °C}$  expelled from the syringe when the fiducial line on the piston traverses a given scale interval or intervals

### 3.2

#### **needle cap**

protective end cap intended to maintain the sterility of the needle tube and to protect physically the needle tube and needle hub, if present

### 3.3

#### **needle sheath**

cover intended to provide physical protection to the needle tube

### 3.4

#### **protective end caps**

covers intended to enclose the projecting portion of the plunger and push-button at one end and the nozzle and/or the needle at the other end