

ISO 15882:2008-09 (E)

Sterilization of health care products - Chemical indicators - Guidance for selection, use and interpretation of results

Contents	Page
Foreword	iv
Introduction	v
1 Scope	1
2 Terms and definitions	1
3 General considerations	3
4 Classes of chemical indicator	5
4.1 General	5
4.2 Class 1: Process indicators	5
4.3 Class 2: Indicators for use in specific tests	6
4.4 Class 3: Single variable indicators	6
4.5 Class 4: Multi-variable indicators	8
4.6 Class 5: Integrating indicators	8
4.7 Class 6: Emulating indicators	9
5 Selection of chemical indicators	10
6 Use of chemical indicators	10
6.1 Class 1 process indicators	10
6.2 Class 2 indicators	11
6.3 Class 3, 4, 5 and 6 indicators	11
6.4 Indicators for use with process challenge devices	11
7 Interpretation of results from chemical indicators	12
7.1 General	12
7.2 Chemical indicator responses	12
7.3 Chemical indicators showing "fail" response	12
8 Chemical indicators in sterility assurance procedures	12
8.1 General	12
8.2 Record keeping	13
9 Personnel training	13
10 Storage and handling	14
11 Labelling	14
11.1 General	14
11.2 Indicator marking	14
11.3 Process marking	14
11.4 Package marking	14
Annex A (informative) Background on the Bowie and Dick test	16
Annex B (informative) Explanation of the terms "parameter" and "variable"	19

Annex C (informative) Rationale for the requirements for integrating indicators and the link to the requirements for biological indicators (BIs) specified in the ISO 11138 series and microbial inactivation (derived from ISO 11140-1)	20
Annex D (informative) Specifications for porosity	27
Annex E (informative) Figure showing relationship of indicator components	29
Bibliography	30