

1 Scope

This European Standard specifies a method of test simulating practical conditions for establishing whether a product for hygienic handrub reduces the release of transient flora according to the requirements when rubbed onto the artificially contaminated hands of volunteers.

This European Standard applies to products for hygienic handrub for use in areas and situations where disinfection is medically indicated. Such indications occur in patient care, for example :

- in hospitals, in community medical facilities and in dental institutions ;
- in clinics of schools, of kindergartens and of nursing homes.

and may occur in the workplace and in the home. It may also include services such as laundries and kitchens supplying products directly for the patient.

2 Normative references

This European Standard incorporates by dated or undated reference, provisions from other publications. These normative references are cited at the appropriate places in the text and the publications are listed hereafter. For dated references, subsequent amendments to or revisions of any of these publications apply to this European Standard only when incorporated in it by amendment or revision. For undated references the latest edition of the publication referred to applies.

prEN 12054 Chemical disinfectants and antiseptics – Products for hygienic and surgical handrub and handwash – Bactericidal activity – Test method and requirements (phase 2/step 1)

3 Definitions

For the purposes of this standard, the following definitions apply :

3.1 product (for chemical disinfection and/or antiseptis)

Chemical agent or formulation used as a chemical disinfectant and/or antiseptic [EN 1040].

3.2 hygienic handrub

Postcontamination treatment procedure that involves rubbing hands without the addition of water, using a bactericidal preparation directed against transient microorganisms to prevent their transmission regardless of the resident skin flora.

3.3 prevalue

Number of colony forming units (cfu) sampled from hands before treatment.