



BSI Standards Publication

Sterilization of health care products - Radiation

Part 3: Guidance on dosimetric aspects of development,
validation and routine control

This is a preview of "BS EN ISO 11137-3:20...". [Click here to purchase the full version from the ANSI store.](#)

National foreword

This British Standard is the UK implementation of EN ISO 11137-3:2017. It is identical to ISO 11137-3:2017. It supersedes BS EN ISO 11137-3:2006, which is withdrawn.

The UK participation in its preparation was entrusted to Technical Committee CH/198, Sterilization and Associated Equipment and Processes.

A list of organizations represented on this committee can be obtained on request to its secretary.

This publication does not purport to include all the necessary provisions of a contract. Users are responsible for its correct application.

© The British Standards Institution 2017
Published by BSI Standards Limited 2017

ISBN 978 0 580 82896 6

ICS 11.080.01

Compliance with a British Standard cannot confer immunity from legal obligations.

This British Standard was published under the authority of the Standards Policy and Strategy Committee on 31 August 2017.

Amendments/corrigenda issued since publication

Date	Text affected
------	---------------

EUROPÄISCHE NORM

July 2017

ICS 11.080.01

Supersedes EN ISO 11137-3:2006

English Version

Sterilization of health care products - Radiation - Part 3: Guidance on dosimetric aspects of development, validation and routine control (ISO 11137-3:2017)

Stérilisation des produits de santé - Irradiation
- Partie 3: Directives relatives aux aspects
dosimétriques de développement, la validation
et le contrôle de routine (ISO 11137-3:2017)

Sterilisation von Produkten für die
Gesundheitsfürsorge - Strahlen - Teil 3:
Anleitung zu dosimetrischen Aspekten der
Entwicklung, Validierung und Lenkung
der Anwendung (ISO 11137-3:2017)

This European Standard was approved by CEN on 15 March 2017.

CEN members are bound to comply with the CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations which stipulate the conditions for giving this European Standard the status of a national standard without any alteration. Up-to-date lists and bibliographical references concerning such national standards may be obtained on application to the CEN-CENELEC Management Centre or to any CEN member.

This European Standard exists in three official versions (English, French, German). A version in any other language made by translation under the responsibility of a CEN member into its own language and notified to the CEN-CENELEC Management Centre has the same status as the official versions.

CEN members are the national standards bodies of 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 United Kingdom.



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

CEN-CENELEC Management Centre: Avenue Marnix 17, B-1000 Brussels

This is a preview of "BS EN ISO 11137-3:20...". [Click here to purchase the full version from the ANSI store.](#)

European foreword

This document (EN ISO 11137-3:2017) has been prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 198 "Sterilization of health care products" in collaboration with Technical Committee CEN/TC 204 "Sterilization of medical devices" the secretariat of which is held by BSI.

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 2018 and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by January 2018.

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 supersedes EN ISO 11137-3:2006 .

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 11137-3:2017 has been approved by CEN as EN ISO 11137-3:2017 without any modification.

This is a preview of "BS EN ISO 11137-3:20...". Click here to purchase the full version from the ANSI store.

Contents

	Page
Foreword	v
Introduction	vi
1 Scope	1
2 Normative references	1
3 Terms, definitions and symbols	1
3.1 General.....	1
3.2 Symbols.....	3
4 Measurement of dose	4
4.1 General.....	4
4.1.1 Direct and indirect dose measurements.....	4
4.1.2 Dosimetry systems.....	4
4.1.3 Best estimate of dose.....	4
4.2 Dosimetry system selection and calibration.....	5
4.2.1 General.....	5
4.2.2 Selection of dosimetry systems.....	5
4.2.3 Calibration of dosimetry systems.....	5
4.3 Dose measurement uncertainty.....	6
4.3.1 General concepts.....	6
4.3.2 The Guide to the expression of uncertainty in measurement (GUM) methodology.....	6
4.3.3 Radiation sterilization specific aspects of dose measurement uncertainty.....	7
5 Establishing the maximum acceptable dose	8
6 Establishing the sterilization dose	9
7 Installation qualification	10
8 Operational qualification	11
8.1 General.....	11
8.2 Gamma irradiators.....	11
8.3 Electron beam irradiators.....	13
8.4 X-ray irradiators.....	15
9 Performance qualification	17
9.1 General.....	17
9.2 Gamma irradiators.....	18
9.2.1 Loading pattern.....	18
9.2.2 Dosimetry.....	19
9.2.3 Analysis of dose mapping data.....	20
9.3 Electron beam irradiators.....	20
9.3.1 Loading pattern.....	20
9.3.2 Dosimetry.....	22
9.3.3 Analysis of dose mapping data.....	22
9.4 X-ray irradiators.....	23
9.4.1 Loading pattern.....	23
9.4.2 Dosimetry.....	24
9.4.3 Analysis of dose mapping data.....	25
10 Routine monitoring and control	25
10.1 General.....	25
10.2 Frequency of dose measurements.....	26
Annex A (informative) Mathematical modelling	27
Annex B (informative) Tables of references for dosimetry-related testing during IQ/OQ/PQ	30

This is a preview of "BS EN ISO 11137-3:20...". [Click here to purchase the full version from the ANSI store.](#)

Annex C (informative) Tolerances associated with doses used in sterilization dose setting/ substantiation in ISO 11137-2 and ISO/TS 13004	33
Annex D (informative) Application of dose measurement uncertainty in setting process target doses.....	34
Bibliography	40

This is a preview of "BS EN ISO 11137-3:20...". Click here to purchase the full version from the ANSI store.

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).

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. Details of any patent rights identified during the development of the document will be in the Introduction and/or on the ISO list of patent declarations received (see www.iso.org/patents).

Any trade name used in this document is information given for the convenience of users and does not constitute an endorsement.

For an explanation on the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see the following URL: www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html.

This document was prepared by Technical committee ISO/TC 198, *Sterilization of health care products*.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 11137-3:2006), which has been technically revised.

A list of all parts in the ISO 11137 series can be found on the ISO website.

Introduction

An integral part of radiation sterilization is the ability to measure dose. Dose is measured during all stages of development, validation and routine monitoring of the sterilization process. It has to be demonstrated that dose measurement is traceable to a national or an International Standard, that the uncertainty of measurement is known, and that the influence of temperature, humidity and other environmental considerations on dosimeter response is known and taken into account. Process parameters are established and applied based on dose measurements. This document provides guidance on the use of dose measurements (dosimetry) during all stages in the development, validation and routine control of the radiation sterilization process.

Requirements in regard to dosimetry are given in ISO 11137-1 and ISO 11137-2 and ISO/TS 13004. This document gives guidance to these requirements. The guidance given is not normative and is not provided as a checklist for auditors. The guidance provides explanations and methods that are regarded as being suitable means for complying with the requirements. Methods other than those given in the guidance may be used, if they are effective in achieving compliance with the requirements of ISO 11137-1, ISO 11137-2 and ISO/TS 13004.

This is a preview of "BS EN ISO 11137-3:20...". Click here to purchase the full version from the ANSI store.

Sterilization of health care products - Radiation —

Part 3:

Guidance on dosimetric aspects of development, validation and routine control

1 Scope

This document gives guidance on meeting the requirements in ISO 11137-1 and ISO 11137-2 and in ISO/TS 13004 relating to dosimetry and its use in development, validation and routine control of a radiation sterilization process.

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 11137-1, *Sterilization of health care products — Radiation — Part 1: Requirements for development, validation and routine control of a sterilization process for medical devices*

ISO 11137-2, *Sterilization of health care products — Radiation — Part 2: Establishing the sterilization dose*

ISO/TS 13004, *Sterilization of health care products — Radiation — Substantiation of a selected sterilization dose: Method VD_{max}^{SD}*

ISO 13485, *Medical devices — Quality management systems — Requirements for regulatory purposes*

3 Terms, definitions and symbols

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in ISO 11137-1 and ISO 11137-2 and the following 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 General

3.1.1

absorbed dose dose

quantity of ionizing radiation energy imparted per unit mass of a specified material

[SOURCE: ISO 11137-1:2006, 3.1, modified]

Note 1 to entry: For the purposes of this document, the term “dose” is used to mean “absorbed dose”.