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## **Sterilization of health care products — Radiation —**

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

*Stérilisation des produits de santé — Irradiation —*

*Partie 3: Directives relatives aux aspects dosimétriques de  
développement, la validation et le contrôle de routine*



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## 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](http://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](http://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](http://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.