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Retrieval and analysis of surgical implants —

Part 2: Analysis of retrieved surgical implants

Retrait et analyse des implants chirurgicaux —

Partie 2: Analyse des implants chirurgicaux métalliques retirés

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Contents

Page

Foreword ... **iv**

Introduction ... **v**

1 Scope ... **1**

2 Normative references ... **1**

3 Terms and definitions ... **1**

4 Procedures for retrieval, handling and packaging ... **1**

5 Analysis of the implant interfaces ... **2**
5.1 Implant/tissue interface ... 2
5.2 Implant/implant interfaces ... 2

6 Analysis of the implant ... **2**
6.1 General ... 2
6.2 Forms for recording the results of the analyses ... 3
6.3 Stage I investigation (macroscopic examination — non-destructive) ... 3
6.3.1 General ... 3
6.3.2 Identification/photography ... 3
6.3.3 Visual examination ... 3
6.3.4 Low-power optical examination ... 3
6.3.5 Further evaluation ... 3
6.4 Stage II investigation (microscopic examination — mostly non-destructive) ... 3
6.4.1 General ... 3
6.4.2 Microscopic examination ... 4
6.4.3 Fractographic examination ... 4
6.4.4 Surface topography ... 4
6.5 Stage III investigation (material investigation — mostly destructive) ... 4
6.5.1 General ... 4
6.5.2 Material composition ... 4
6.5.3 Microstructure ... 5
6.5.4 Mechanical properties ... 6
6.6 Surface-treated or coated implants ... 6
6.7 Biodegradable implants ... 6

7 Implant performance ... **7**

Annex A (normative) **Standard forms for the analysis of retrieved surgical implants** ... **8**

Annex B (informative) **ISO documents applicable for the evaluation of materials** ... **19**

Bibliography ... **23**

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 of 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 www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html.

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 150, *Implants for surgery*.

This third edition cancels and replaces the second edition (ISO 12891-2:2014), of which it constitutes a minor revision. The changes compared to the previous edition are as follows:

— normative references have been updated;

— editorial improvements have been made to the language of this document.

A list of all parts in the ISO 12891 series can be found on the ISO website.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user’s national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at www.iso.org/members.html.

Introduction

The investigation of retrieved implantable medical devices and adjacent tissues can be of diagnostic value in the event of clinical complications, can deepen our knowledge of clinical implant performance and safety, and can improve our understanding of the interactions between implants and the body, thus, furthering the development of implants with improved biocompatibility and functional longevity.

This document specifies methods for the retrieval, handling, and analysis of surgical implants and associated specimens which are retrieved from patients during revision surgery or post-mortem. The aim is to provide guidance in preventing damage to the specimens which could obscure the investigation results, and in gathering data at the proper time and under the proper circumstances. ISO 12891-1 deals with retrieval and handling. This document concerns the analysis of implants of specific materials and includes protocols for reporting the data collected. For particular investigation programmes, additional, more specific protocols can be required. If special analytical techniques are employed, it is important to specify the procedures used.

This document specifies methods for the analysis of retrieved surgical implants to ensure they are not damaged, to indicate typical investigation techniques, and to allow comparisons between investigation results from different sources. These methods can be useful for retrieval and analysis studies in animals.

This document provides for a thorough examination of all aspects of an explanted prosthesis. In many cases only a subset of these examinations will be appropriate to the investigation of a specific explanted device.

ISO 12891-1 specifies methods for retrieval and handling and applies to this document. Annexes A and C of ISO 12891-1 include examples of protocols for reporting data concerning the retrieval process. These protocols are not repeated in this document. They can be reduced or expanded depending on the retrieved surgical implant, the presence of any attached or accompanying biological material, and the purpose of the retrieval and analysis.